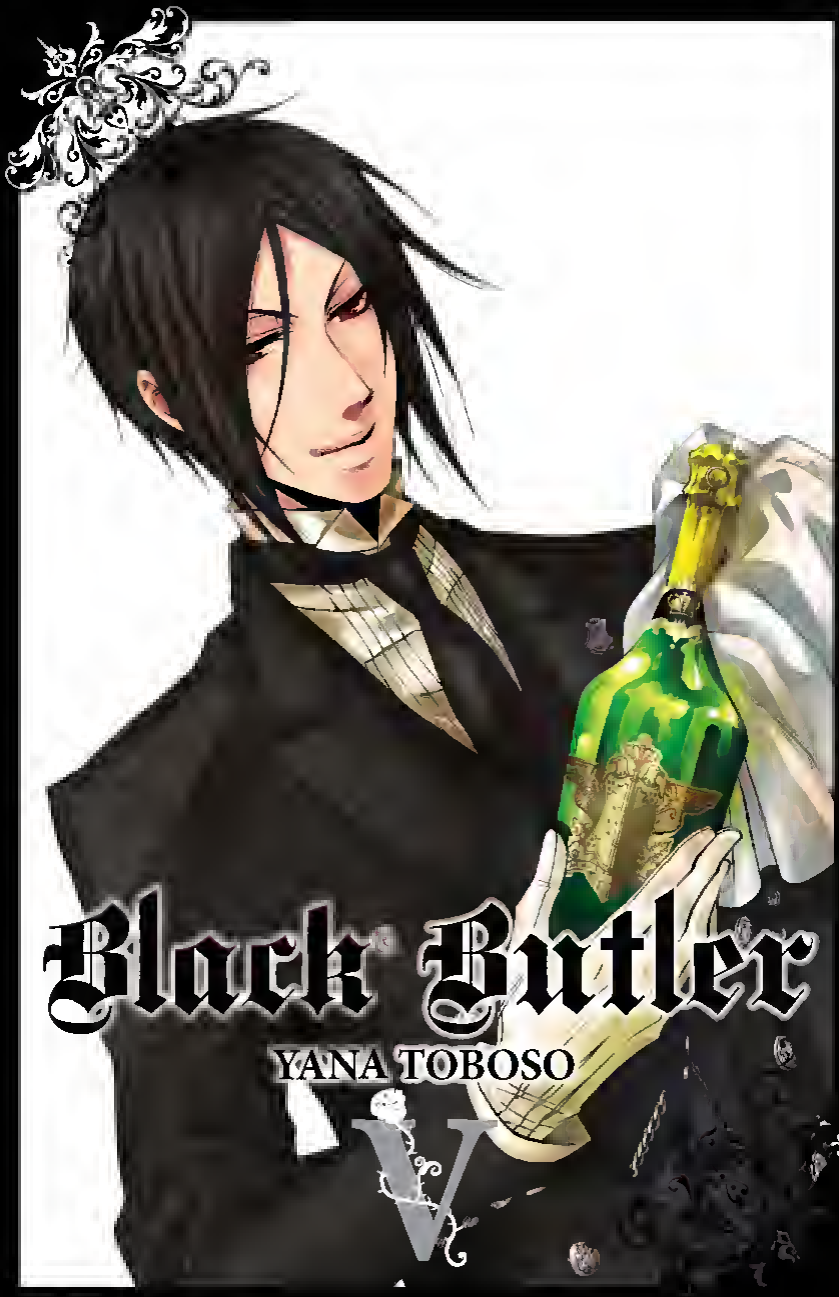
Black Butler
YANA TOBOSO
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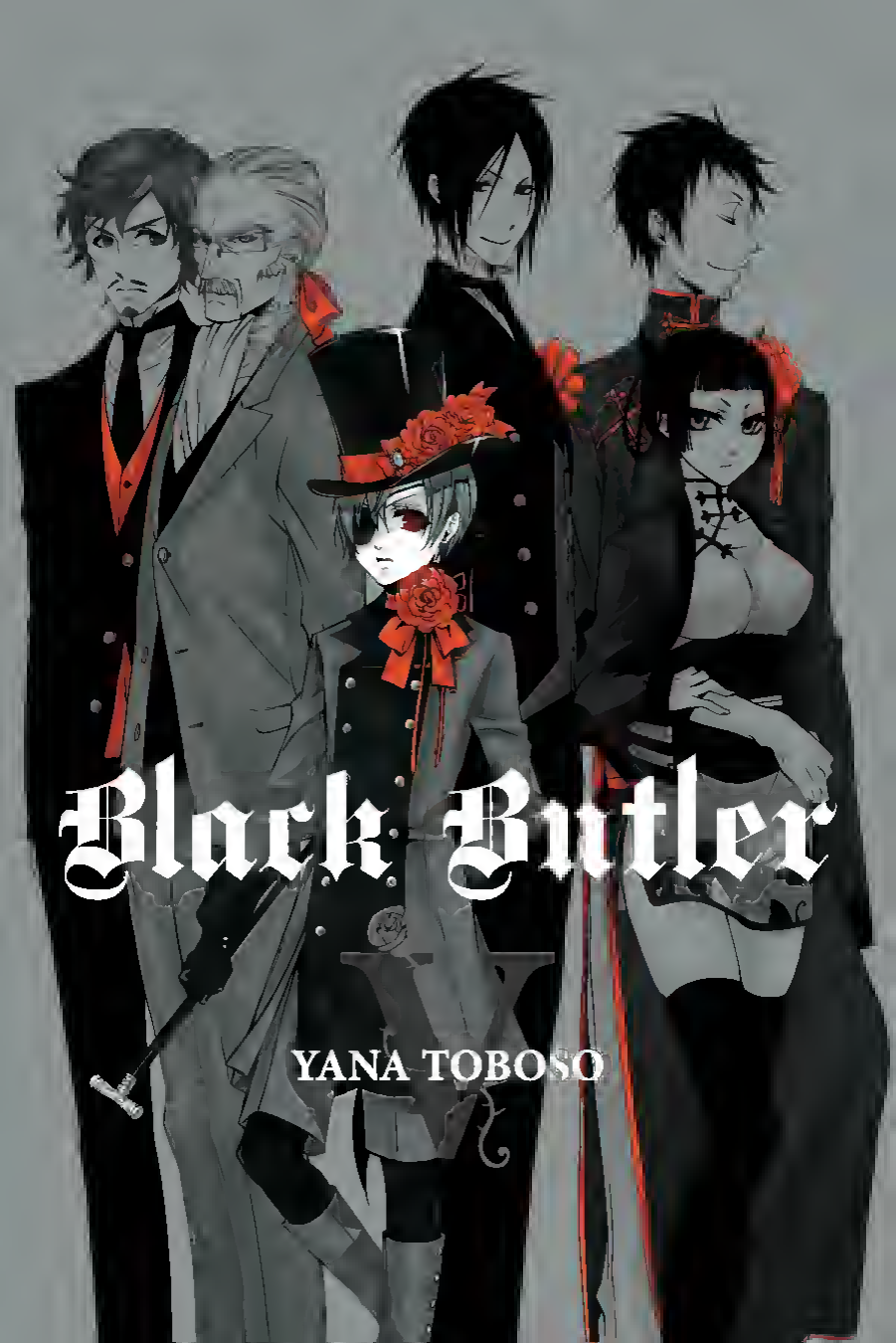
Black Butler
YANA TOBOSO

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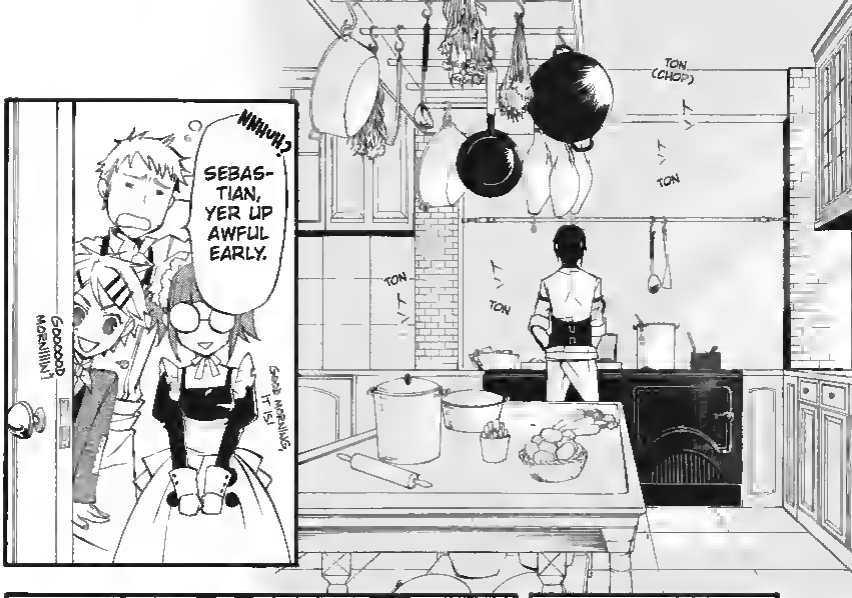
In the morning : The Butler, Cogitating


WNHUH?
SEBAS-TIAN, YER UP AWFUL EARLY.
GOOOOOD MORNIIIN'!
GOOD MORNING, IT IS!
TON (CHOP)
TON
TON
TON

WITH PRINCE SOMA STILL IN RESIDENCE AND ALL, I THINK PERHAPS CHICKEN CURRY MIGHT BE BEST.
THOUGH I HAVE NOT MADE IT OFTEN IN THE PAST, SINCE THE YOUNG MASTER IS NOT FOND OF SPICY FOODS...
Terry. Indian Cookery.

WHAT THE HECK YOU MAKIN' AT THIS HOUR?
THAT WOULD BE CURRY.
HUH, AIN'T THAT A RARE SIGHT. WHAT KINDA CURRY?

NOW THEN.
PAN (CLAP)

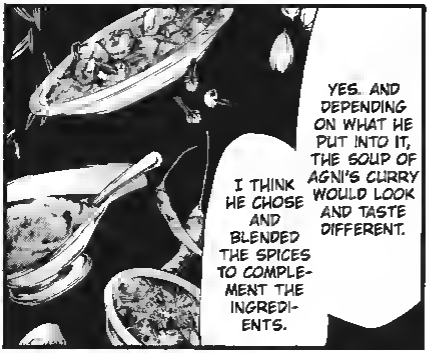
CHOP THE ONIONS FINELY AND SAUTÉ THEM IN BUTTER.
ONCE THE ONIONS ARE COOKED, ADD DICED CHICKEN, CURRY PASTE, CURRY POWDER, BENGALI CHUTNEY, AND LIME AND MANGO PICKLE TO THE SAUTÉ.
POUR WATER OVER THE SAUTÉED CHICKEN AND LET COOK FOR ONE AND A HALF HOURS.
ONCE THE WATER HAS ALL BUT BOILED AWAY, ADD A DOLLOP OF CREAM AND SERVE.
SMELLS DELISH TOOO!
WITH A CURRY LIKE THIS, THAT AGNI FELLER DOESN'T STAND A CHANCE!
LOOKS YUMMY !!
WAAH!
BRITISH-STYLE BENGALI CHICKEN CURRY

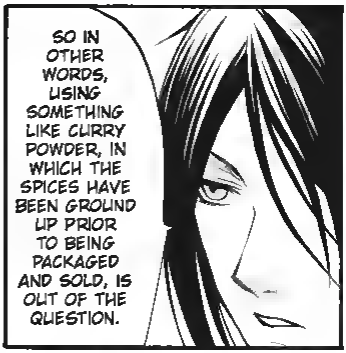
YUCK!!
WAS IT NOT TO YOUR TASTE?
GYAH!
I-IT'S NOT THAT... IT'S JUST VERY DIFFERENT FROM THE CURRY THAT I ALWAYS EAT IN INDIA, SO, WELL...
BIKUHAN CFI INCH
...AND THIS IS GOOD IN ITS OWN WAY...
UM...
INCOHERENT
IT IS FINE. PLEASE, CONTINUE.
PHEW.

HMM
HOW ODD. EVEN AFTER I USED THE BEST CURRY POWDER AVAIL-ABLE...
FIRST, THE FLAVOUR IS WEAK, AND IT HAS NO AROMA.
NOT TO MENTION IT'S GRITTY, SO THE TEXTURE IS ROUGH ON THE TONGUE.
THIS DOESN'T COUNT AS CURRY.
FROM THE INDIA
EMPRESS POWDER
YES, "CURRY" OF THE KIND THAT EMPLOYED CURRY POWDER WAS PECULIAR TO THE CUISINE OF GREAT BRITAIN ALONE.
IN THE CURRENT ERA CURRY, WHICH ANGLO-INDIANS BROUGHT BACK TO THEIR HOMELAND UPON THEIR RETURN, HAD TAKEN FIRM ROOT IN BRITISH CUISINE.
BUT AS THE BLENDING OF SPICES WAS DIFFICULT FOR AN AMATEUR THE SPICES WERE GROUND AND BLENDED TOGETHER, AND SOLD AS PREPACK-AGED CURRY POWDER.
?
CURRY POWDER? WHAT IS THAT?

AT MY PALACE, I HAVE <MASALCHI> DEDICATED TO THAT TASK ALONE.
WHEN THEY AREN'T FRESHLY GROUND, THEIR AROMA EVAPO-RATES.
YES, SPICES DETERMINE THE COLOUR AND HEAT OF CURRY, BUT WHAT IS MOST IMPORTANT IS THEIR FLAVOUR.

I'VE NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE THAT IN INDIA, AND AGNI DIDN'T USE IT EITHER.
AT LEAST AS FAR AS I KNOW...

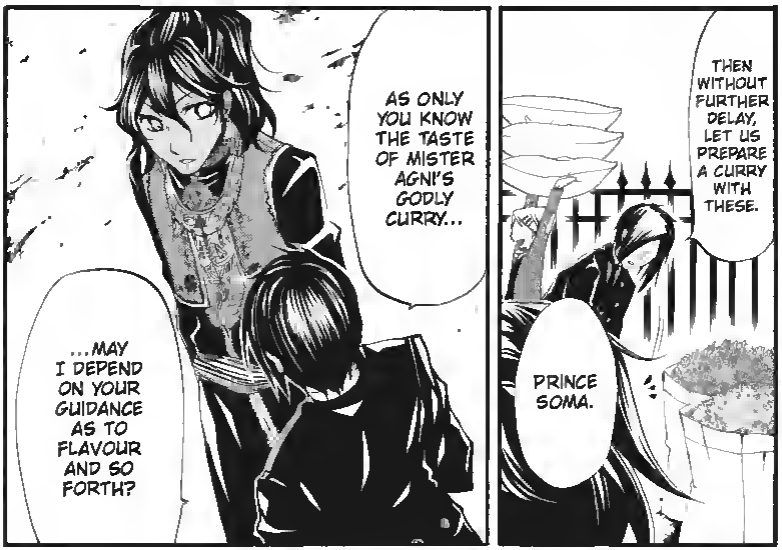

I THINK HE CHOSE AND BLENDED THE SPICES TO COMPLE-MENT THE INGREDI-ENTS.
YES. AND DEPENDING ON WHAT HE PUT INTO IT, THE SOUP OF AGNI'S CURRY WOULD LOOK AND TASTE DIFFERENT.


SO IN OTHER WORDS, USING SOMETHING LIKE CURRY POWDER, IN WHICH THE SPICES HAVE BEEN GROUND UP PRIOR TO BEING PACKAGED AND SOLD, IS OUT OF THE QUESTION.

HIS COMPANY CONTROLS THE DISTRI-BUTION, SO HE CAN SECURE THE BEST OF THE BUNCH FOR HIMSELF.
IN THAT, WEST HAS THE ADVAN-TAGE.
THEN WE MUST FIRST TRACK DOWN FRESH SPICES OF THE BEST QUALITY.

HM?
BRANCH MANAGER OF A TRADING COMPANY
I FEAR WE ARE RUNNING SHORT ON TIME. LET US FIND OURSELVES SOME TRADERS ...
...
TWO DAYS LATER
AMAZING!!
I'VE SEEN ALL OF THESE BACK HOME IN MY COUNTRY!
DON'T-CHA DARE DROP 'EM NOW!
WOOOW!! SO THIS STUFF AAAAAALL GOES INTO CURRY, HUH!?

HMPH!
I SUPPOSE EVEN YOU HAVE YOUR USES IN TIMES LIKE THESE.
OH, THE TROUBLE I HAD TO GO THROUGH TO GET THESE!
TO HAVE ME COLLECT THIS ALL IN THE SPAN OF A DAY... WHAT A SLAVE-DRIVER YOU ARE, LORD EARL!
SPICES ARE OUTSIDE OUR AREA OF EXPERTISE, YOU KNOW.
WE SURE CAN MAKE LOTS AND LOTS OF CURRY, HUUUUUH!?
EACH ONE HAS SUCH A BEGUILING PERFUME.
THESE SPICES ARE INDEED THE FINEST MONEY CAN BUY.
WELL, HAVING THE FUNTOM CORPORATION OWE ME ONE IS HARDLY A BAD THING.


AS ONLY YOU KNOW THE TASTE OF MISTER AGNI'S GODLY CURRY...
...MAY I DEPEND ON YOUR GUIDANCE AS TO FLAVOUR AND SO FORTH?
THEN WITHOUT FURTHER DELAY, LET US PREPARE A CURRY WITH THESE.
PRINCE SOMA.

...CAN YOU, AN ENGLISHMAN, MANAGE TO USE ALL THESE SPICES?
THAT'S FINE WITH ME, BUT...
SFX: BA (HIDE)
AH!
No, I mean... I'm not making fun of you!!
Just... it must be hard since you're not used to them...
I AM MUCH OBLIGED BY YOUR CONCERN.
I THINK I SHALL NEED SOME TIME, BUT LET US GO ABOUT THIS STEADILY AND SEE WHERE IT TAKES US.
WILL HE REALLY BE OKAY?
I'M WORRIED
WE'LL HAVE TO WAIT AND SEE.
EJJAH!
MAYBE THIS CALLS FOR AN AFTER-NOON NAP
NIKO (SMILE)
I beg your patience until the curry is complete.

{MURGI'R KARI}
CHICKEN CURRY
MY APOLOGIES FOR HAVING KEPT YOU WAITING.
I PRESENT YOU WITH A CURRY OF TENDER CHICKEN STEWED WITH SPICES AND THE SAVOUR OF ONIONS.
I TOPPED IT OFF SIMPLY WITH SOME CORIANDER AND YOGURT.
コト
KOTO (TNK)
LAU I WIN WITH THAT CARD
EHHHH, I'VE BEEN HAAAAD!
YOU'RE ALREADY DONE!?
IT'S ONLY BEEN ABOUT TWO HOURS SINCE YOU BEGAN—
THEN SHALL WE PLAY OLD MAN?
I'M TIRED OF OLD MAID.
HAAH...
YES, IT UNFORTUNATELY TOOK ME A FULL TWO HOURS.
PLEASE FORGIVE ME FOR FORCING YOU TO WAIT FOR SO LONG.
AND THIS AROMA, IT'S...
...ALMOST LIKE AGNI'S CURRY.

IT WAS SIMPLE.
HOW IN THE WORLD... AND IN SUCH A SHORT TIME...
I JUST SAMPLED ALL OF THE SPICES.
TO RETURN TO THE POINT AT HAND, I THEN BLENDED THE SPICES TO MATCH THE FRAGRANCE OF THE CURRY MISTER AGNI COOKED FOR BREAKFAST THE OTHER DAY AS CLOSELY AS POSSIBLE.
YES.
THE WHOLE LOT?
EACH AND EVERY ONE OF THEM!?
SHRUG
SHRUG
GIGANTIC CLUNT

MY SENSE OF SMELL IS A TAD BETTER THAN THAT OF MOST HUMANS.
THAT WAS ALL IT TOOK TO RE-CREATE THE AROMA?
Y-YES, ALL RIGHT.
TIME TO EAT!
LET'S GET STAAARTED!
"IT IS BETTER TO GET DOWN TO WORK THAN TO WORRY ABOUT IT," AS THEY SAY. WHY NOT HAVE A BITE FIRST?
COME, COME, YOUR HIGH-NESS.
KACHA (CLINK)
THIS AROMA IS VERY DIFFERENT FROM THE LAST.
THE SPICES PRESENT AN EXTRA-ORDINARY BOUQUET.

MY, THIS IS...
...DELI-CIOUS!!
THE FLAVOUR OF THE FRESHLY GROUND SPICES WHETS YOUR APPE-TITE, AND...
...THE STEWED CHICKEN IS SO TENDER, IT PRACTI-CALLY MELTS IN YOUR MOUTH.
PRINCE SOMA, WHAT DO YOU THINK?

THIS WON'T DO.
THE AROMA IS WELL AND GOOD, BUT...
...THE TASTE IS A WHOLE OTHER STORY.

IS THAT SO ...?
THEN LET US TRY A SPICE BLEND THAT HAS A SIMILAR AROMA BUT WILL CREATE A DIFFERENT TASTE.
HMM.

GU (CLENCH)

IF ONLY THERE WAS EVEN ONE THING I KNEW ABOUT THE WAY AGNI PREPARES HIS CURRY ...
BUT I, UTTERLY IGNORANT AS I AM...
...CAN-NOT DO ANYTHING FOR YOU, NO MATTER HOW MUCH I SHOULD LIKE
AND ONCE AGAIN, HERE I AM, HAVING TO DEPEND ON YOU LOT.
SOME-ONE LIKE ME SHOULD JUST—
GO (PAT)
PLEASE DO NOT BERATE YOUR-SELF SO.
THERE ARE YET THINGS THAT ONLY PRINCE SOMA CAN DO.
NIKO (SMILE)

ズラ〜〜〜

I AM THE BUTLER OF THE PHANTOM-HIVE FAMILY. WHEREVER WOULD WE BE IF I WAS UNABLE TO MANAGE SOMETHING AS SIMPLE AS THIS?
B-BUT...
...I DON'T THINK I CAN EAT ALL OF THIS BY MYSELF...
PRINCE SOMA.
YOUR COOPERATION IS NECESSARY SO THAT WE MAY CREATE A DIVINE CURRY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
URGH...
V-VERY WELL!!
I SHALL EAT AS MUCH CURRY AS NECESSARY IF MY EATING CURRY IS OF USE TO YOU!!
WELL...
HAVE SOME TOO!!!

THE TASTE IS TOO HEAVY, AND IT'S TOO SPICY HOT.
DAMN, THAT'S HOT!
YUMMM!
FIRST, WE HAVE THE CURRY FROM BEFORE ...
... WITH SALT, TURMERIC, AND CORIANDER ADDED.
IT TASTES BETTER, BUT THE AROMA ISN'T EVEN CLOSE.
GATSU GATSU (CHOMP)
YUMMM!
THE NEXT CANDIDATE...
...BOASTS A MILDNESS THANKS TO THE ADDITION OF COCONUT MILK AND YOGURT.
GEFU (BURP)
NOW I FEEL LIKE...
...IT'S NOT HOT ENOUGH.
ELIMINATED
SO FULL...
YUMMM!
NEXT UP, WE HAVE...
...A SPICY CURRY OF CUMIN AND CINNAMON.
GUFU (HEAVE)
THE FLAVOUR IS TOO MUCH... AND... HEAVY...
ELIMINATED
YUMMM!
MY APOLOGIES FOR THE WAIT.
I HAVE PREPARED THIS WITH RED PEPPER AND CLOVES TO TASTE.

IGNORED!!
Come, the next curry awaits.
GUTAAAA (COLLAPSE)
I THINK I'M FULL UP TO THE GILLS WITH CURRY...
I ADDED CARDAMOM AND GARLIC.
IPIIKU (PERK)
KOTO (CLINK)
?
TH-THIS CURRY IS...
...DIFFERENT FROM ALL THE OTHERS I'VE HAD TODAY...

THIS IS—!!
A FAMILIAR SCENE...
THIS IS MY PALACE.
THEN THE ONE BESIDE ME IS—
BA (LEAP)

?
AG...
FU
YUMMM!

...SOMA ...?
PRINCE ...

...IT TASTES VERY MUCH LIKE THE CURRY I USED TO ALWAYS EAT... LIKE AGNI'S CURRY!!
THIS...
THIS CURRY...

BUT IT'S STILL NOT QUITE RIGHT.
EH?
STILL, TO HAVE TO GO TO SUCH GREAT LENGTHS TO ACHIEVE THE RIGHT BLEND OF SPICES...
HMM.
THAT'S OUR BUTLER FOR YA!
YOU DID IIIIIT, MISTER SEBASTIAN!
AND THAT "SOMETHING"... WOULD BE?
THE TASTE, THE AROMA, THE HEAT...ARE INDEED THE SAME AS AGNI'S.
HOWEVER...
...SOMETHING... SOMETHING IS STILL MISSING!
MAYBE THAT THE SAVOURINESS AND FLAVOUR OF AGNI'S CURRY ARE MORE PROFOUND ...
HRRRRRM...
TO ANSWER YOUR QUESTION... HM, HOW SHOULD I PUT IT?

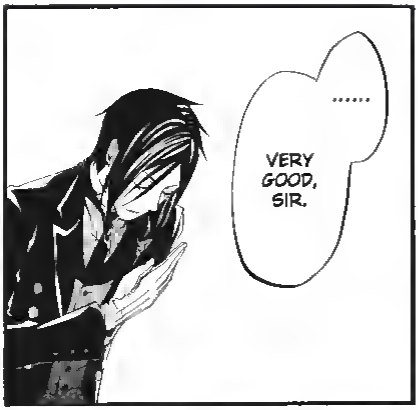
YES, THAT'S IT! THE BODY!
THIS CURRY LACKS BODY!

GIVING THEMSELVES OVER TO SENSES THAT ARE INDESCRIBABLY NONSENSICAL AND IMPOSSIBLE TO UNDERSTAND... = THIS IS WHY CREATURES CALLED HUMANS ARE...
THE TASTE MUST BE THE SAME, BUT THE BODY DEEPER? HOW VAGUE...

BODY?
IS THAT IT?
BIKU (FLINCH)
ZUU (GOOD)
Y-YES.

IN A SPOT OF TROUBLE, ARE WE?
HRRRRRN...

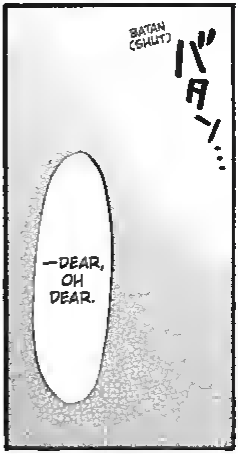
HOW GOES IT?
YOUNG MASTER.
THE KITCHEN IS NO PLACE FOR YOU...
PEKO CLICK
THREE DAYS TILL THE CURRY FAIR, HM?
DO THE BEST YOU CAN AND KEEP AT YOUR RESEARCH.


.....
VERY GOOD, SIR.

AAH, YES, THAT REMINDS ME. I WOULD LIKE GÂTEAU AU CHOCOLAT FOR MY AFTERNOON SNACK.
BRING IT TO ME LATER.

HMPH...

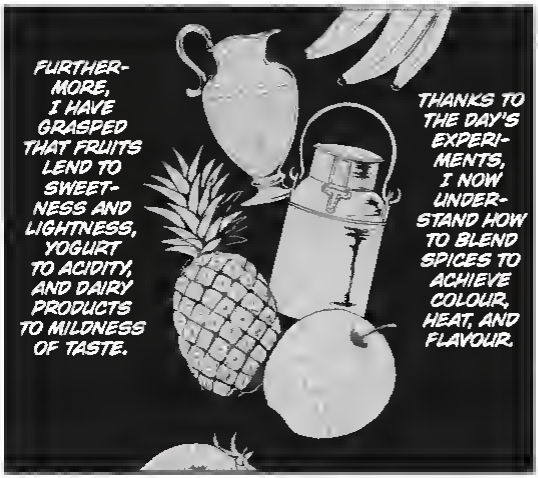
YOU MAKE IT SOUND AS THOUGH YOU WANT MASTER BUTLER TO FAIL, LORD EARL.


BATAN (SHUT)
バタン…
—DEAR, OH DEAR.

HEH!
HARDLY.
BUT...
...EVEN MORE THAN OBTAINING THE ROYAL WARRANT ...
...WOULDN'T SEEING THAT BUTLER LOSE BE JUST THAT MUCH MORE FUN?
HEH HEH...
WHY, MY LORD, JUST LOOK AT YOU... YOU'RE POSITIVELY GLOWIIING! ♡
YOU'RE SUCH A BULLY.
SHUT UP.

KACHA
KACHA (CLINK)
AGHHHH!
MAN, I ATE LIKE A PIG.
I'M STUFFED.
GEPPU (BURP)
KAKAN (CLATCH)
EVERY-ONE.
I HAVE TO GET BACK TO THE LAUN-DRY, I DO!
KACHA
I'LL GO OUT TOO! INTO THE GARDEN!
COME WITH ME, YOUR
LEAD THE WAY
MAY-BE I OUGHTA GO DO SOME EXER-CISES FOR THE DIGES-TION OR SOME-THIN'
MM-HMM.
KACHA
ONE-BY-ONE
I...
I CAN'T FIT ANY MORE IN MY BELLY, I JUST CAN'T!
YOU HAVE TEN MINUTES TO DIGEST WHATEVER YOU HAVE LEFT IN THERE.
EEEEEEEE!
THE NEXT CURRY WILL BE READY MOMEN-TARILY.
GO (RUMBLE)
GO
GO
GO
GO

死屍累々。
DEAD.
GEPU (BURP)
UGHHHH
UGHHHH
HOH!
HOH!
HOH!
HOH!


FURTHER-MORE, I HAVE GRASPED THAT FRUITS LEND TO SWEET-NESS AND LIGHTNESS, YOGURT TO ACIDITY, AND DAIRY PRODUCTS TO MILDNESS OF TASTE.
THANKS TO THE DAY'S EXPERI-MENTS, I NOW UNDER-STAND HOW TO BLEND SPICES TO ACHIEVE COLOUR, HEAT, AND FLAVOUR.

WHAT COULD BE MISSING FROM THIS CURRY?
HAAH

ごっちゃ
GOCCHAAA (MESSY)
THIS WILL NEVER DO. BEFORE I CAN EVEN GET STARTED ON THE PREPARATIONS FOR TOMORROW MORNING, I HAVE THIS MUCH WASHING-UP TO SEE TO.

BUT DESPITE ALL THAT, THE "DEEP-NESS" OF MISTER AGNI'S DIVINE CURRY REMAINS SOME-THING SEPARATE ALTO-GETHER.

DOES SUCH AN INGREDIENT EVEN EXIST—
...IT MUST TAKE THE CURRY TO NEW HEIGHTS OF TASTE—
THE PROBLEM LIES WITH "BODY"... WITHOUT DESTROYING THE INTRICATE BLEND OF THE MANY SPICES...
ZAAAA (ZEGHA)
!?
THIS IS—

—WHAT WAS THAT!?
YOU'VE CREATED A DIVINE CURRY!?
IN JUST ONE NIGHT, YOU'VE FOUND A WAY TO GIVE IT THAT KIND OF BODY!?
JUST IN MY OWN WAY, BUT...YES.
PLEASE, HAVE A TASTE.
IT LOOKS THE SAME AS YESTERDAY.
CAN THIS REALLY BE ANYTHING LIKE AGNI'S CURRY OF THE GODS?

THIS ISN'T MY PALACE.
WHY, THIS IS GREAT BRITAIN.
...I FEEL AT HOME.
BUT I WONDER WHY, SOMEHOW...
THIS IS—
!?

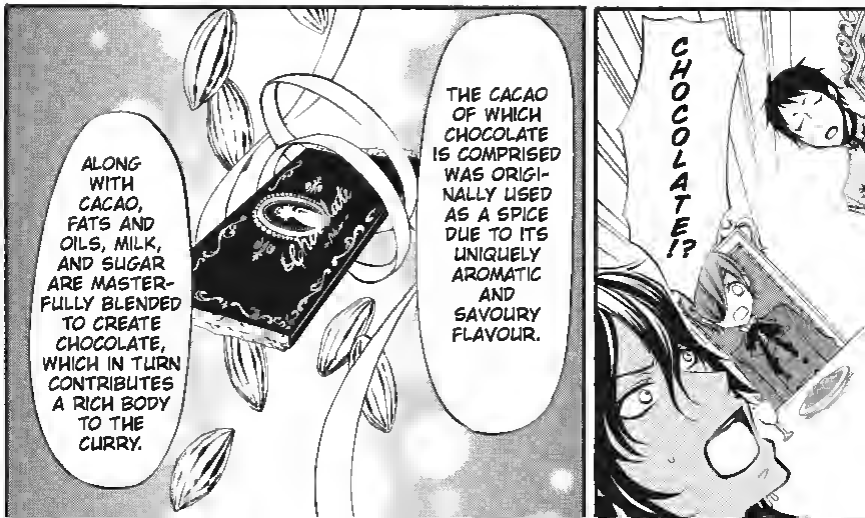
AN ENGLISH LADY AND AN INDIAN FELLOW...
...ARE DANCING TOGETHER SO HAPPILY.
I SEE. THIS CURRY DOES NOT SIMPLY COPY AGNI'S CURRY...
THIS IS INDIAN CURRY WITH A PARTICULARLY BRITISH INGENUITY (SENSIBILITY?) THROWN IN.
THE TWO DON'T CLASH...
...BUT INSTEAD, MELT TOGETHER TENDERLY.

THIS ISN'T AGNI'S... DIVINE CURRY.
WHAT DO YOU THINK?

...WHILE FLAVOURING THAT ONLY AN ENGLISH-MAN COULD DEVISE BRINGS OUT A WHOLE NEW KIND OF BODY IN THE DISH.
BUT THE COMPLEX SAVOURINESS CREATED BY THE SPICES IN INDIAN CURRY REMAINS THE SAME...

BUT HOW DID YOU MANAGE TO GET IT RIGHT IN THE SPAN OF AN EVENING ...?
IT WAS DELI-CIOUS, <KHAN-SAMA>.
THIS CURRY IS WORTHY OF BEING CALLED DIVINE IN ITS OWN RIGHT.

Phantom Chocolate
Phantom Bitter
Phantom
TH—
THAT IS—
WITH THIS.


ALONG WITH CACAO, FATS AND OILS, MILK, AND SUGAR ARE MASTERFULLY BLENDED TO CREATE CHOCOLATE, WHICH IN TURN CONTRIBUTES A RICH BODY TO THE CURRY.
THE CACAO OF WHICH CHOCOLATE IS COMPRISED WAS ORIGINALLY USED AS A SPICE DUE TO ITS UNIQUELY AROMATIC AND SAVOURY FLAVOUR.
CHOCOLATE!?

I REALISED THIS AS I WAS CLEANING UP FROM MAKING THE YOUNG MASTER'S REQUESTED GÂTEAU AU CHOCOLAT.
THUS YOU ENDED UP ASSISTING ME.
MORE-OVER, FUNTOM'S CHOCOLATE BEING TOP-QUALITY AS IT IS, CONTAINS THE PUREST CACAO.
ONE WOULD BE HARD-PRESSED TO FIND SOMETHING BETTER THAN THIS CHOCO-LATE TO MAKE THE ULTIMATE CURRY, I DARESAY
TCH!
—AGNI.
AMAZING, CIEL! YOUR <KHAN-SAMA> HAS CAUGHT UP TO DIVINE CURRY IN JUST ONE WEEK!
MAYBE HE CAN WIN AGAINST AGNI—

AGNI.
ALL DONE, HM?
YES...
...IT'S PERFECT.
THIS WILL BE MY CURRY.

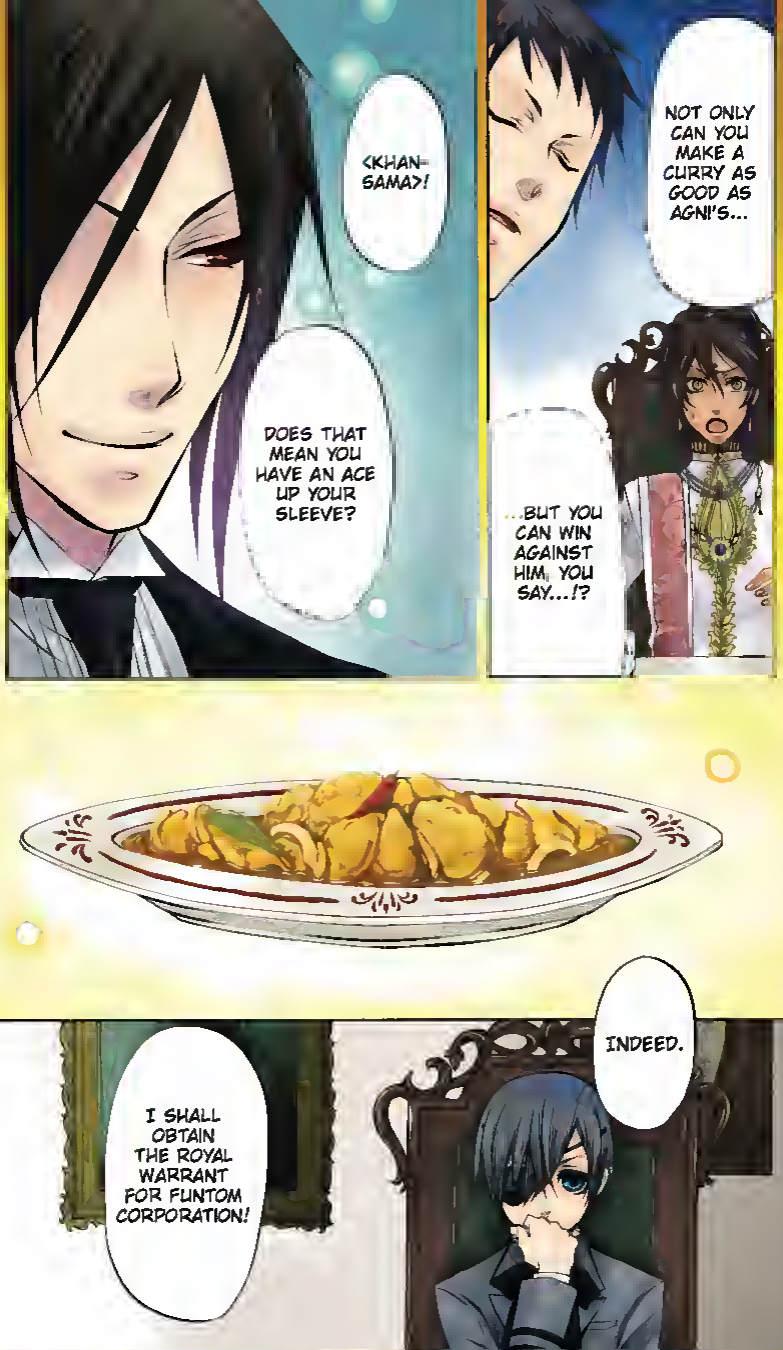
BUT THIS TIME, WE'RE NOT USING ANY OLD PRAWNS.
LIKEWISE, YOUR SPECIALTY'S SHELLFISH CURRY.
BENGAL'S SPECIALTY IS SEAFOOD.
WE'RE USING THAT NOBLEWOMAN!
!?
PASA (FLAP)
THE OTHER PARTICIPANTS ARE UNHEARD-OF THIRD-RATE BRANDS AND A TOY COMPANY POPULAR WITH CHILDREN.
AND THANKS TO YOU, ALL MY RIVALS HAVE WITHDRAWN FROM THE COMPETITION.

dahlia Ltd.
Harold West
Funtom Co
Persian tabb
Dormitory vill
PER-HAPS MY PRINCE IS—!?
FUNTOM CORPO-RATION.
!!
DON'T YOU WORRY.
NN? WHAT'S WITH THAT FACE?
I HATE TO BREAK IT TO YOU, BUT THIS WON'T BE ENOUGH TO BEAT THEM.
NO ONE CAN BEAT US.
MY PRINCE ...!!

"CATCHING UP" AND "WINNING" ARE TWO DIFFERENT THINGS ENTIRELY.
YOU'VE ONLY JUST GOTTEN TO WHERE YOU CAN COMPETE EQUALLY WITH AGNI AND HIS CURRY OF THE GODS.
RIGHT, SEBASTIAN?
JUST SO, SIR.
THAT IS *CURRENTLY* WHERE I STAND.
THAT FACE... HAVE AN ACE UP YOUR SLEEVE, DO YOU, MASTER BUTLER?

YOU'D BETTER NOT BE LYING, YOU KNOW?
INDEED.
I HAVE NEVER TOLD A LIE.
OF COURSE.
I SHALL OBTAIN THE ROYAL WARRANT FOR FUNTOM CORPO-RATION.
I STAKE MY TITLE AS BUTLER TO THE PHANTOMHIVE HOUSEHOLD UPON IT!

Black Butler


NOT ONLY CAN YOU MAKE A CURRY AS GOOD AS AGNI'S...
...BUT YOU CAN WIN AGAINST HIM, YOU SAY...!?
<KHAN-SAMA>!
DOES THAT MEAN YOU HAVE AN ACE UP YOUR SLEEVE?
INDEED.
I SHALL OBTAIN THE ROYAL WARRANT FOR FUNTOM CORPORATION!

CHAPTER 21

In the afternoon: The Butler, Competitive

Black Butler

UWAAAAAH!!
WHAT IS THAT GREAT BIG CREATURE!?
ALL GUSSIED UP ☆
THAT IS KNOWN AS AN ELE-PHANT. A SACRED ANIMAL.
PAOOOOON!
WE KEEP SOME AT MY PALACE TOO. ABOUT TEN OF THEM.
THAT'S CRAZY!!
AS PETS!?
DO YOU REALLY KEEP THOSE HUGE THINGS IN YOUR HOUSE, DO YOU!?
WOOOOW...

HI THERE, LORD EARL.
THAT'S A SNAKE CHARMER.
WHAT IS THAT NASTY?
PLEASE DO NOT WANDER OFF, YOU LOT.
THE SHOW IS FINALLY ABOUT TO BEGIN!
WELL, AREN'T YOU BOLD, WOMANISING IN FRONT OF YOUR CLIENT, LIKE THAT.
FUH (FWIP)
RIGHT THEN
I HEAR THE SPECTATORS WILL GET TO SAMPLE THE COMPETING CURRIES AT THIS FAIR, AND I WAS THINKING I'D GIVE THIS LITTLE ONE THE CHANCE TO TRY SOME TOO!
SHE'S ADORABLE ISN'T SHE?
TSUN (POKE)
COME, COME! RAN-MAO IS MY LITTLE SISTER! JUST MY LITTLE SISTER!
THOUGH WE'RE NOT RELATED BY BLOOD

Noooooo
MY COUNTRY IS ABOUT HERE
OOOOH
HE BETRAYED THE MASTER HE REGARDS AS HIS GOD.
WHAT ELSE WOULD HE BE IF NOT SERIOUS?
ANYWAY, IS THE PRINCE'S BUTLER LAD REALLY SERIOUS?
PRETTY MUCH.
THE LIKELIHOOD OF WEST'S EVIL DEEDS BEING EXPOSED WILL INCREASE SIGNIFICANTLY IF HE RELINQUISHES HIS HOLD ON AGNI AFTER ALL IS SAID AND DONE. SOUGHT-AFTER ROYAL WARRANT IN HAND OR NOT.
IF I WERE IN HIS SHOES, I'D...
BE THAT AS IT MAY, I THINK THAT WEST'S PROMISE TO RETURN THE GIRL ONCE THE PLAN HAS BEEN CARRIED OUT IS...
...NOTHING MORE THAN A BLATANT LIE.

KILL HIM?
YOU CAN'T GO AROUND KILLING PEOPLE OFF ONE BY ONE OVER SUCH TRIVIALITIES, YOU KNOW.
HAAAAAH...
EHHH? IF IT WERE UP TO ME, HE'D BE AS GOOD AS DEAD.
...THAT ASIDE...
...WHAT REALLY HAS ME CONCERNED IS MASTER BUTLER'S STRATEGY FOR TODAY.
...YES, HELLO...
...MISTER WEST.
IT HAS BEEN QUITE SOME TIME, MY LORD! NOT SINCE LAST YEAR'S LONDON SEASON, I BELIEVE.
THAT'S—
WELL, WELL!
WHY, IF IT ISN'T EARL PHANTOM-HIVE!

AS USUAL, YOU'RE SPORTING A FINELY TAILORED COAT, I SEE!
KOSO (LURK)
THE HECKER ROAD'S
WHICH BRAND MIGHT SUCH A DISTINGUISHED INDIVIDUAL AS AN EARL WEAR, IF I MAY ASK?
I'M MOST HONOURED TO MAKE YOUR ACQUAINTANCE ONCE MORE!
CHIRA (GLANCE)
COME TO THINK OF IT, I'VE HEARD THAT YOUR COMPANY IS TAKING PART IN TODAY'S FESTIVITIES AS WELL?
YES... I AM CONSIDERING AN EXPANSION INTO FOODSTUFFS AT PRESENT.
WELL, YOU SEE, I LEAVE MY CLOTHING TO MY BUTLER AND HAVE LESS THAN A PASSING INTEREST IN BRANDS, SO...
COME, COME! REALLY NOW!
HA! HA! HA!
I WAS TERRIBLY SURPRISED TO LEARN OF YOUR PARTICIPATION IN THE CURRY FESTIVAL!
DID YOU RECRUIT YOURSELF A SKILLED CHEF OR SOMETHING?
KOSOSO
WRONG, IS IT?
IS SOMETHING

IS THAT A FACT...
MY COMPANY DOESN'T INTEND TO LOSE EITHER!
WE'VE HIRED A REMARKABLE CHEF OF OUR OWN.
HISO (WHISPER)
JUST BETWEEN US, IT WOULD SEEM A SPY FROM A RIVAL COMPANY STOLE INTO MY HOUSE THE OTHER DAY.
MY ONE-OF-A-KIND GALLE LAMP SMASHED TO PIECES! AND MY GENERAL TRADING CHEST WRECKED! THE HORROR, I TELL YOU!
...JUST KNOWING THE CULPRIT MAY BE SKULKING AROUND THESE FAIRGROUNDS CHILLS ME TO THE BONE!
HA HA HA
I DID AT LEAST MANAGE TO DEFEND MY SECRET CURRY, BUT...
HURU (TREMBLE)
JUST REMEMBERING THE INCIDENT GIVES ME A FRIGHT!

SINCE PRINCE ALBERT'S PASSING, HER MAJESTY HASN'T APPEARED IN PUBLIC MUCH.
WHO'S TO SAY ...?
THAT ASIDE, I OVER-HEARD THAT THE QUEEN WILL BE IN ATTENDANCE TODAY...
SOWA
SOWA (FIDGET)
AS I'LL BE TAKING THAT ROYAL WARRANT, I REALLY WOULD LIKE HER MAJESTY TO TASTE MY COMPANY'S SUPERIOR CURRY IN FRONT OF THE AUDI-ENCE.
"AS I'LL BE TAKING THAT ROYAL WARRANT"... EH?
.....
WELL, I'LL BE!
I'VE NATTERED ON FOR TOO LONG!
WE SHALL TALK LATER!

AS YOU WISH, SIR.
WHEN IT COMES TO HIS SORT, THE REAL FUN LIES IN SEEING THEIR FACES AS THEY TASTE DEFEAT.
HE IS UTTERLY CONVINCED OF HIS VICTORY.
SFX: KOSO (LURK) KOSO

THEN I SHALL MAKE MY WAY TO THE STAGING AREA FOR FESTIVAL PARTICIPANTS.

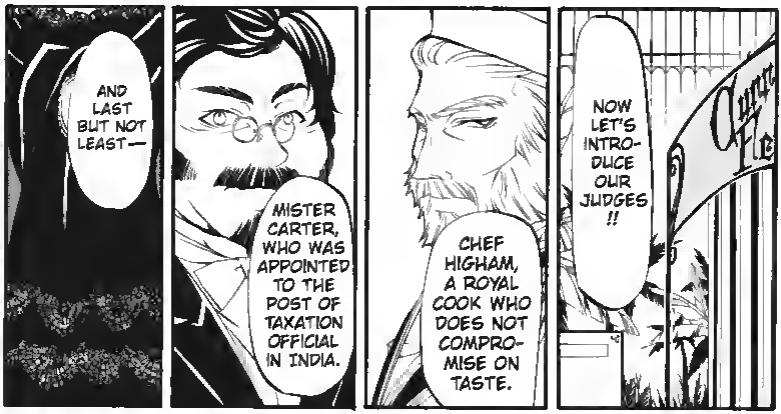
GACHA (CLACK)
カチャ

ガタッ
GATA
CLACK
MISTER SEBASTIAN.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE...?
IT HAS BEEN A WHILE.
I AM HERE AT MY MASTER'S BEHEST.

IF LORD CIEL HAS ORDERED YOU TO TAKE SUCH ACTION WITH MY PRINCE'S INTERESTS AT HEART, PLEASE WITHDRAW NOW!
HAH!
MY MASTER? DOING THIS FOR PRINCE SOMA, YOU SAY?
YOUR CONCERN IS UNFOUNDED, FOR MY LORD PUTS HIS INTERESTS AND THOSE OF HIS BUSINESS BEFORE ALL ELSE.
I BEG YOU.
I DO NOT WISH TO COMBAT SOMEONE WHO HAS SHOWN ME EVERY KINDNESS!
YOU HAVE YOUR REASONS FOR PARTICIPATING IN THIS FAIR, AS DO I.
THAT IS ALL THERE IS TO IT.

FORGIVE ME, BUT I...
...CANNOT AFFORD TO LOSE...!
HOW CURIOUS.
THAT HOLDS FOR ME AS WELL
NOW, LADIES AND GENTS! IT'S TIME FOR THIS "INDIAN CULTURE AND ITS PROSPERITY IN THE BRITISH EMPIRE" EXHIBITION'S MAIN EVENT— THE CURRY FESTIVAL!
Curry Festival
LONDON'S BEST CURRY HOUSES WILL BE TAKING PART!

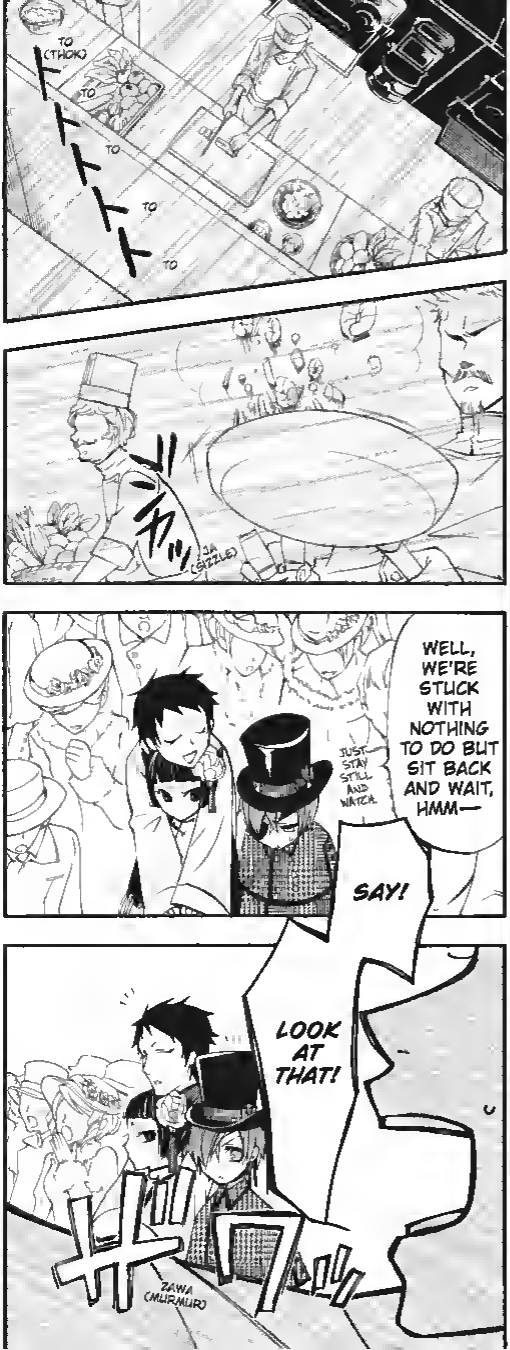
ワアア
WAAH!
Curry Festival
AND ESPECIALLY FOR TODAY'S EVENT, YOU, DEAR AUDIENCE, WILL HAVE THE CHANCE TO SAMPLE THE COMPETITORS' CURRIES!
WE HOPE YOU LOOK FORWARD TO IT!


AND LAST BUT NOT LEAST—
MISTER CARTER, WHO WAS APPOINTED TO THE POST OF TAXATION OFFICIAL IN INDIA.
CHEF HIGHAM, A ROYAL COOK WHO DOES NOT COMPROMISE ON TASTE.
NOW LET'S INTRODUCE OUR JUDGES!!

...THE VISCOUNT OF DRUITT, A LOVER OF ART, BEAUTY, AND FOOD!
HE'S SO FIIIIIINE!
MYYYY LORD!
KYAAAAH!
GOOSE BUMPS
SOWA (SHUDDER)
!!?
EH? DIDN'T THE YARD TAKE HIM AWAY?
CLEARLY, HE MUST'VE BRIBED HIS WAY OUT.
HOW ROTTEN.
I REALLY DON'T WANT TO BE REMINDED OF THAT DAY'S EVENTS.
AND HERE ARE TODAY'S PARTICI-PANTS!
ZURA CLINED UP!

CHEF TURPIN FOR PERSIAN TABB.
CHEF RUSH FOR DORMI-TORY VILL.
CHEF RICKMAN FOR DAHLIA LIMITED.
CHEF RIPLEY FOR WORREST CILIN.
CHEF AGNI FOR HAROLD WEST.
AND BUTLER SEBASTIAN FOR FUNTOM CORPORA-TION.

...WHA...
...A BUTLER?
YES.
I AM NO CHEF.
I AM MERELY A BUTLER.
MUMMY! IT'S THE FUNTOM COMPANY!
DID HE SAY A BUTLER?
WHAT'S A MAKER OF SWEETMEATS DOING IN A CURRY FESTIVAL?
ZAWA
ZAWA MURMUR
I-IN ANY CASE WE'VE GOT A UNIQUE CAST OF PARTICIPANTS FOR YOU!
GO AHEAD! HOLD YOUR BREATH IN ANTICIPATION OF THE CULINARY DELIGHTS TO COME!


TO (TSUKK)
TO
TO
TO
TO
JA (SIZZLE)
WELL, WE'RE STUCK WITH NOTHING TO DO BUT SIT BACK AND WAIT, HMM—
JUST STAY STILL AND WATCH.
SAY!
LOOK AT THAT!
ZAWA (MURMUR)
NOW LET THE COOKING BEGIN!!

BA (FLING)
THAT INDIAN'S RIGHT HAND PRACTICALLY HAS A LIFE OF ITS OWN!
AND WHAT A LOVELY AROMA ...
HA!
THAT'S THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD FOR YOU. THIS'LL BE LIKE TAKING CANDY FROM A—
!?
ZAWA

ZA (WHOOSH)
WHA...
AH HA HA! YOU BULLY!
TCH!
ALAS, IT DOESN'T SEEM AS THOUGH HE'LL GO DOWN EASILY.
NAH!
FUN- TOM'S AMAZING TOO!!
AND IT SMELLS JUST AS GREAT!

WHY!? WHY CAN THAT BUTLER BLEND THOSE SPICES!?
NO...BUT HE'S AN ENGLISHMAN. HE CAN'T WIN AGAINST AGNI BY SIMPLY OBSERVING AND IMITATING...
HEY!
WHAT IN BLAZES IS HE DOING !?
!?
NO, IT CAN'T BE...!
HE'S PUTTING SOME-THING BLACK IN THE CURRY POT!
IS THAT CHOC-OLATE !?

LEAVE IT TO FUNTOM, THE CANDY KING! WHAT A NOVEL METHOD OF ADVERTISE-MENT!
HA HA HA HA!
ZAWA MURMUR
CHOCO-LATE IN CURRY !?
I'M GOING TO BE SICK...
WHAT IS GOING THROUGH THAT MAN'S HEAD?
MUM-MYYYY! I WANT TO EAT CHOCO-LATE!
ZAWA
SHEEETCH!
.....
NO...
YOU ARE MIS-TAKEN!
THAT IS INDEED AN ACCEPTABLE SEASONING. THE BLEND OF CACAO, OILS, MILK, AND SUGAR TEASES OUT THE AROMA AND BITTERNESS, NOT TO MENTION MELLOW BODY, SIMULTANE-OUSLY.
IT WOULD NEVER OCCUR TO US INDIANS. IT IS SOME-THING OF WHICH ONLY AN ENGLISH-MAN COULD CONCEIVE...

MISTER SEBASTIAN... I HAVE KNOWN SINCE THE MOMENT WE MET...
...THAT YOU ARE NO ORDINARY MAN.
HOWEVER...
...I CANNOT LOSE EITHER.
THIS IS FOR THE SAKE OF MY GOD!!
ZA (SHUK)
WH—
ZAWA
WHAT IS THAT!?
A BLUE...
...LOBSTER!?

WHY, IF THAT ISN'T ...
...THE BLUE NOBLE-WOMAN, LE HOMARD BLEU!
FOUND IN BUT ONE LOCATION IN THE WORLD— THE CLEAR WATERS OFF THE COAST OF BRETAGNE IN FRANCE— IT IS A LEGENDARY LOBSTER!
WITH A SHELL OF BRILLIANT BLUE THAT WOULD MAKE EVEN THE STAINED GLASS OF CHARTRES ENVIOUS, IT CUTS QUITE THE FIGURE... INDEED, JUST AS A BEAUTIFUL NOBLEWOMAN IN A BLUE GOWN OF THE FINEST MAKING MIGHT!
AND THE FIRM FLESH BENEATH THAT LOVELY SHELL ENCHANTS PEOPLE WITH A DELICATE SWEETNESS THAT IS MUCH MORE EXTRAVAGANT THAN ITS LOOKS.
THERE YOU HAVE IT!
THE RAREST OF RARE INGREDI-ENTS AND AGNI'S GODLY TOUCH!
AND THAT, MY FRIENDS, IS HOW THE BEST CURRY BRAND IN GREAT BRITAIN DOES THINGS!
I WILL DO EVERY-THING IN MY POWER ...
...TO DEFEAT YOU, MISTER SEBAS-TIAN!

!?
TH-THAT IS—!!
WE'VE LOST THIS BATTLE.
DAMN!
BUT THE CURRY ALONE WAS PERFECT!!
CERTAINLY, THE CURRY THAT CIEL'S <KHAN-SAMA> MADE WAS THE REAL THING.
!?
PIKU (PERK)
WHAT MAKES YOU SAY THAT?

...WHICH IS THEN BAKED QUICKLY IN A HIGH-TEMPERATURE OVEN CALLED A <TANDOOR>.
IT'S NOT A STAPLE IN BENGAL, SO I DON'T KNOW THE DETAILS, BUT NAAN IS MADE WITH A WHEAT OR OTHER FLOUR THAT HAS BEEN LEAVENED ...
THE PROBLEM IS WITH THE NAAN.
HE WASN'T ABLE TO MASTER THE ART OF CURRY IN JUST ONE WEEK, AFTER ALL.
THIS MATCH ...
IF LEFT THAT WAY, THE PRECIOUS CURRY STOCK WILL BOIL OFF, AND THE CURRY WILL BE RUINED.
THE CURRY IS ON TOO HIGH A HEAT.
THE PROBLEM LIES NOT ONLY WITH THE NAAN.
DESPITE IT ALL, MISTER SEBASTIAN IS STILL JUST AN ENGLISHMAN. LEARNING THE PROPER WAY TO BLEND SPICES SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN THE EXTENT OF HIS CURRY-MAKING TALENTS.
BUT THIS VENUE DOES NOT HAVE SUCH A LARGE-SCALE OVEN... GENUINE NAAN CANNOT BE MADE HERE
...IS MINE.

TIME IS UP!
WE WILL NOW BEGIN THE JUDGING!
Curry Fest
FIRST UP IS PERSIAN TABB'S BEEF CURRY.
コトッ
KOTO (CLINK)
PLEASE ENJOY.
THE CUTS OF BEEF HAVE NOT ONLY BEEN STEWED TO BUTTERY TENDERNESS, THEY ARE GENEROUSLY SIZED AS WELL.
IT IS INDEED A SUMPTUOUS DISH.
パクッ
PAKU (CHOMP)
HOWEVER, THE STOCK TASTES FLAT AND HAS NO AROMA, WHICH TELLS ME...
...YOU HAVE USED CURRY POWDER.
THAT A CULINARY PROFESSIONAL WOULD EVEN CONSIDER USING SUCH A THING IS REPREHENSIBLE!
ガーン
GAAAN (SHOCK)
HE USED IT TOO...
EHH?! UR-SHI...

NEXT, WE HAVE CHEF AGNI FROM HAROLD WEST!
AGNI!
THIS...
KAPA COPEND
...IS MY CURRY.
BUT ALL I'M GETTING IS HEAT, WITH NO FLAVOUR ANYWHERE TO BE FOUND.
FROM THIS, I'D SAY DAHLIA BLENDS ITS OWN SPICES, HM?
I DO HOWEVER RECOGNISE YOUR EFFORTS ...
GAAAAN CSHOCK

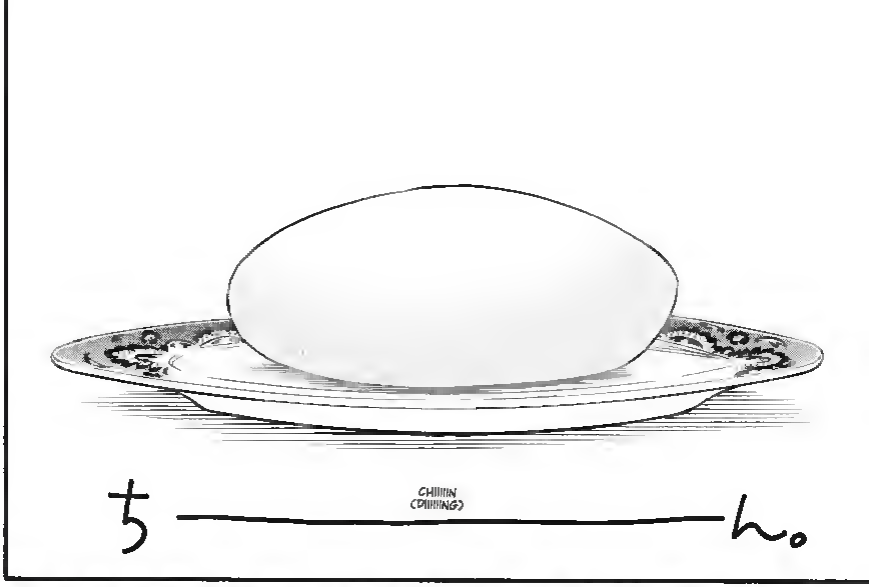
*AN EXTRAVAGANT FOOD PLATTER THAT HAS A VARIETY OF DISHES IN SMALLER BOWLS ARRANGED ON A LARGE PLATE

SEVEN AUTHENTIC CURRIES MADE BY AN INDIAN, WITH THE SHELLFISH CENTER-PIECE BEING THAT FAMED HOMARD, HM...
THEN WITHOUT FURTHER ADO...
PAKU (CHOMP)

I HAVE PREPARED CURRIES OF DIFFERING HEAT AND FLAVOUR SO YOU HAVE A SELECTION FROM WHICH TO MATCH YOUR TASTES.
ALL THE CURRIES HAVE BEEN SEASONED TO PAIR WITH LE HOMARD BLEU.

D-DELI-CIOUS !!
THE FLESH IS FIRM AND WHEN CHEWED THOROUGHLY FILLS THE MOUTH WITH A NUANCED SWEETNESS.
AND THE SWEET SOUP, THE HOT SOUP, THE THIN SOUP, THE THICK SOUP...
...THEY ALL HARMONISE WITH THE SAVOURINESS OF THE LOBSTER WITHOUT KILLING IT OFF!
OOH...
OOH...
The beautiful woman I met at the ball...
You, who possess a most noble beauty, are stood there with seven gems adorning your sublime form.
A gold brooch in the shape of a dove... A bracelet of sapphires and pearls... A choker of garnet... A cameo medallion.
And a ring of diamonds and emeralds for your finger.
All of them enhance your loveliness.
YOU...

I THANK YOU, MY LORD.
WONDERFUL! THIS IS THE BEST CURRY I HAVE EVER TASTED!
HMPH!
... have stolen my heart !!
WHAT SAY YOU!? HAS THE VICTOR ALREADY BEEN DECIDED!?
WAITING IN THE WINGS IS OUR FINAL PARTICIPANT, FUNTOM CORPORATION!
TH...
THIS IS—!
カパ... KAPA (COPEN)
MY CURRY, GENTLEMEN.


CHIIIIN (CHIIIING)

DOKAAAAN (STUNNED)

HYOI (PLUCK)
AH!

KA (FLING)

YOU THERE! WHAT IS THIS WHITE THING !?
DOSU (WHAP)
どす
ARE YOU TRYING TO MAKE A MOCKERY OF US!?

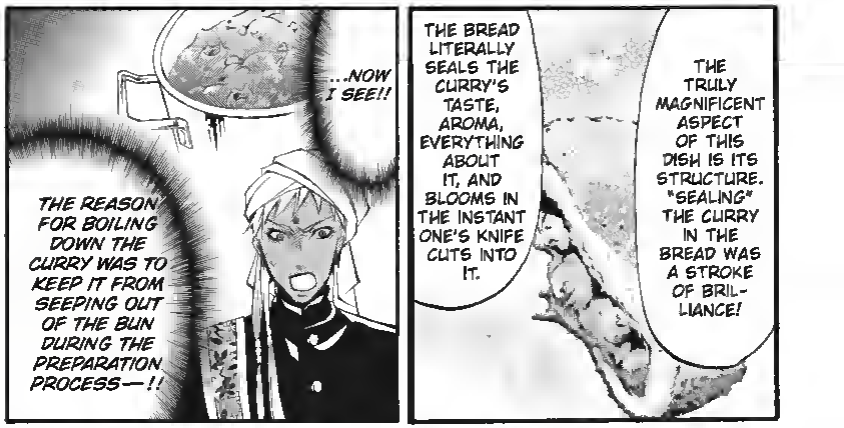
CIEL, WHAT IN KALI'S NAME IS YOUR <KHAN-SAMA> DOING!?
IS HE GONNA MAKE A DOUGH-NUT OR SOME-THING!?
HE'S FRYING IT!?
JUWAAA (SIZZLE)
HE...
NOW IT IS COM-PLETE.
.....
THIS IS OUR COMPANY'S CURRY.
KOTO (TNK)
SAKU (CRUNCH)
PLEASE, JUST A MOMENT. THIS IS —!!
!!
SO I ASK YOU, WHERE IS THE CUR—

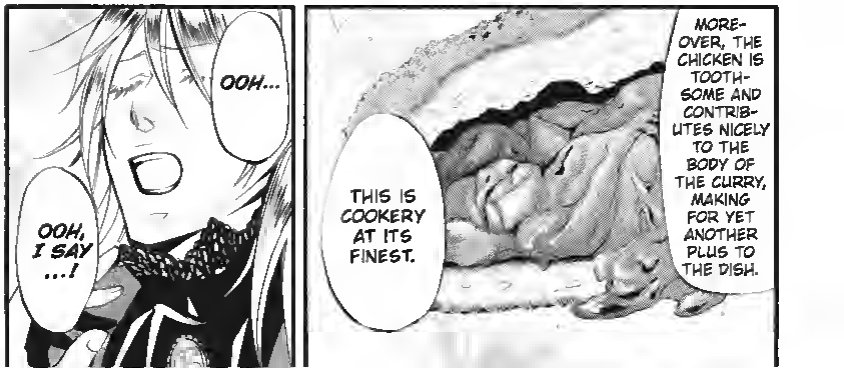
WHAT IN THE —!?
CURRY IS SPILLING OUT FROM WITHIN ...!!
JUWA (SEEP)
JUWAA
THIS IS THE CURRY WE, FUNTOM, PROUDLY PRESENT.
ITS NAME IS...
WH —!
!!
WHAT !?

CU—
...THE CURRY BUN!!
CURRY BUN!?

PLEASE ENJOY.
ZAWA CHURAWARO
ZAWA
WHAT IS THAT? I'VE NEVER SEEN A CURRY OF ITS LIKE.
ZAWA
ZAWA
I—
IN ANY CASE, TO THE TASTE TEST...
SAKU CRUNCH

THE CONTRAST BETWEEN THE CRUNCHY EXTERIOR AND THE FLUFFY INTERIOR OF THE FRIED BREAD, NOT TO MENTION THE THICK, ROBUST CURRY FINISH... IT IS A MOST SKILLFULLY FORMULATED STUDY IN TEXTURES.
THIS IS DELICIOUS!
IT EXPLODES IN THE MOUTH!
HFF!
HFF!


...NOW I SEE!!
THE REASON FOR BOILING DOWN THE CURRY WAS TO KEEP IT FROM SEEPING OUT OF THE BUN DURING THE PREPARATION PROCESS—!!
THE BREAD LITERALLY SEALS THE CURRY'S TASTE, AROMA, EVERYTHING ABOUT IT, AND BLOOMS IN THE INSTANT ONE'S KNIFE CUTS INTO IT.
THE TRULY MAGNIFICENT ASPECT OF THIS DISH IS ITS STRUCTURE. "SEALING" THE CURRY IN THE BREAD WAS A STROKE OF BRILLIANCE!


OOH...
OOH, I SAY ...!
THIS IS COOKERY AT ITS FINEST.
MOREOVER, THE CHICKEN IS TOOTHSOME AND CONTRIBUTES NICELY TO THE BODY OF THE CURRY, MAKING FOR YET ANOTHER PLUS TO THE DISH.

The sweet girl I met at an evening soiree.
By day, you chirp childishly, a mischievous little songbird.
But by night, your true self pecks out...
The seductive smile beneath the mask, where a grown woman stands.
I... WOULD ...
...LIKE TO PUT MY ARMS AROUND YOU!!
AN ORIGINAL IDEA AND UNMISTAKABLE QUALITY ...
...THIS IS A REVOLUTIONARY CURRY WORTHY OF THE FUNTOM NAME!!
I THANK YOU, MY LORD.

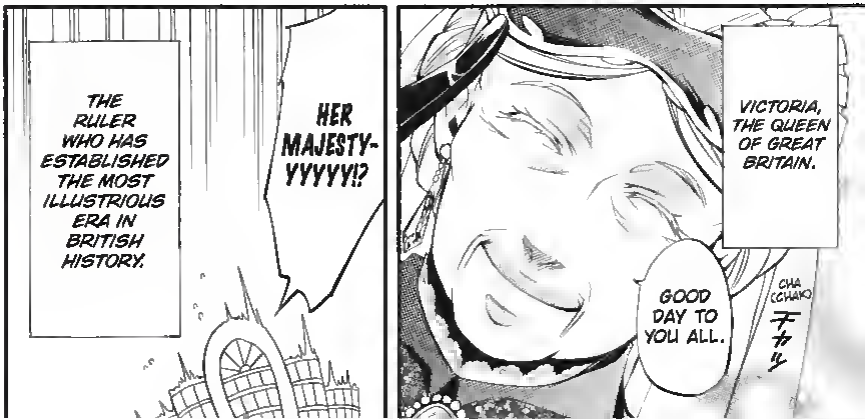
NAAH!
Curry Festival
?
?
ぶるっ…
JOWA (SHUDDER)
GAYA (GAB)
GAYA
AND NOW FOR THE MOMENT YOU'VE ALL BEEN WAITING FOR, LADIES AND GENTS... THE CURRY TASTING!
PLEASE HELP YOURSELF TO WHICHEVER CURRY YOU LIKE!
HOW TO CHOOSE !?
A BEAUTIFUL LADY... A PRETTY GIRL. BOTH HAVE THEIR OWN DISTINCT FLAVOURS.
NO, I SAY HATS OFF TO FUNTOM AND MISTER SEBASTIAN FOR THEIR INGENUITY. IT HAS IRREVOCABLY CHANGED THE HISTORY OF CURRY.
STILL, THE WINNER IS CLEARLY HAROLD WEST'S CHEF AGNI. THE HARMONIOUSLY BALANCED CURRIES WERE TOUCHING DIVINITY!
THIS IS A MOST DIFFICULT DECISION TO MAKE.

Curry Festival
THANK YOU FOR YOUR PATIENCE, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.
AFTER MUCH DISCUSSION...
...THE WINNER OF TODAY'S CURRY FESTIVAL IS...
...HAROLD WEST AND FUNTOM CORPORATION!
WE NAME THEM BOTH VICTO—
SUPPAN (WHAP)
NO-O!

...HUH?
PASHI (WHAP)
SHURURU (TWIRL)
A MOMENT, IF YOU PLEASE.
ZAWA (MURMUR)

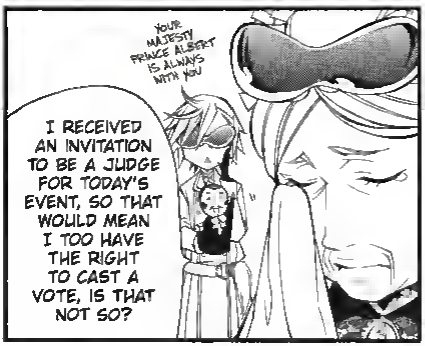
BFFT!
GA (WHACK)
THIS MATCH...
DO (CLOP)
DON (BAM)
KA (CLACK)
ZA (CRASH)
IF I'M NOT MISTAKEN...
THAT IS...
ZAWA
WHOZZAT FUNKY GRANNY?

YOUR MAJ-ESTY!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN A PLACE LIKE THIS!?
MAJ—

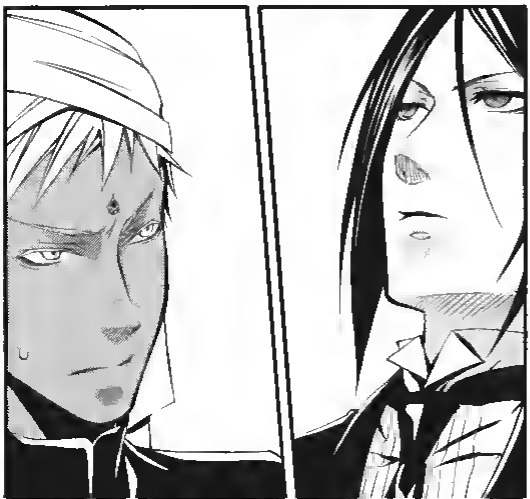

VICTORIA, THE QUEEN OF GREAT BRITAIN.
GOOD DAY TO YOU ALL.
CHA (CHAK)
HER MAJESTY-YYYYY!?
THE RULER WHO HAS ESTABLISHED THE MOST ILLUSTRIOUS ERA IN BRITISH HISTORY.

SHE STILL DEEPLY LOVES HER Llate HUSBAND, PRINCE ALBERT.
...SHE ALSO SETS THE TRENDS FOR EVERYTHING FROM FASHION TO SOCIAL FUNCTIONS AND POPULAR DANCES, AND BOASTS THE UNCONDITIONAL FAVOUR OF HER PEOPLE.
NOT ONLY IS SHE RESPONSIBLE FOR EXPANDING THROUGH HER POLITICAL PROWESS GREAT BRITAIN'S INTERNATIONAL COLONIAL REACH, AND TO SUCH AN EXTENT THAT IT HAS BEEN DUBBED "THE COUNTRY UPON WHICH THE SUN NEVER SETS".
TO GET BACK TO THE POINT AT HAND.
...I BELIEVE HER MAJESTY HAS SOMETHING TO SAY.
MUKU (RISE)
By the by, there are rumours circulating that the titular character of the hugely popular programme "The Wild Earl" is modeled after her Majesty herself...
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
SFX: BURURUN (NICKER)
THE AROMA THAT FILLED THIS VENUE REMINDED ME OF THE CURRY I ONCE ATE WITH DEAR ALBERT ON THE ISLE OF WIGHT...
PACHIN (SNAP)
THANK YOU JOHN.
THIS CURRY COMPETITION WAS CAPITAL.

ALBERRRRT!!
YOUR MAJESTY, PLEASE PULL YOURSELF TOGETHER.
ZUSH... (COLLAPSE)
AN ALBERT DOLL
WOULD THAT I COULD HAVE EATEN THIS CURRY WITH YOU AS WELLLLL!
DOYO (MURMUR...)


YOUR MAJESTY, PRINCE ALBERT IS ALWAYS WITH YOU
I RECEIVED AN INVITATION TO BE A JUDGE FOR TODAY'S EVENT, SO THAT WOULD MEAN I TOO HAVE THE RIGHT TO CAST A VOTE, IS THAT NOT SO?

THE QUEEN IS QUITE A CHARAC-TER, HM?
THIS IS WHY I IMPLORED HER NOT TO COME HERE
HOLD YOUR TONGUE.
ALBERRRT, YOU ARE HERE, YEEEEES!?
VICTORIA, CHEER UP IT IS I, ALBERT
VOICE OF NOOSEN



TI... KA SCHOO TI... KA
AND I CHOOSE

...THE FUNTOM CORPORATION AND ITS REPRESENTATIVE, THE BUTLER SEBASTIAN.
YES, YOU, YOUNG MAN.
!!!
WHA !!!?
B-BUT WHY, YOUR MAJESTY !?
IN WHAT WAY IS OUR CURRY INFERIOR TO A CURRY-FILLED DOUGHNUT!?
SEE FOR YOURSELF.
!?

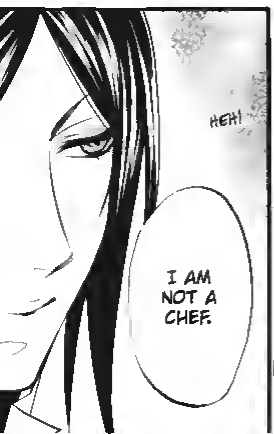
NOW DO YOU UNDER-STAND?

INDEED. SO THAT EVEN CHILDREN MAY EAT IT EASILY, IT IS CLEARLY A DISH INTO WHICH MUCH FORETHOUGHT WAS PLACED.
FUNTOM'S CURRY, WHICH DOES NOT REQUIRE A KNIFE AND FORK, IS ACCESSIBLE TO ALL...
TO BE COMFORTABLE FOR EVERY-ONE...THE WEALTHY AND THE POOR, THE YOUNG AND THE OLD ALIKE...
...THAT GENTLENESS IS NECESSARY FOR GREAT BRITAIN IN PREPARATION FOR THE NEW CENTURY THAT APPROACHES BEFORE OUR VERY EYES.
I WOULD LIKE TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE SPIRIT OF THE FUNTOM CORPORATION, WHICH CHERISHES OUR CHILDREN, OUR FUTURE.

Curry Festival
...WE DECLARE THE WINNER OF THIS FESTIVAL TO BE THE FUNTOM CORPORATION!
THERE-FORE...

WAAAH!
YOU ARE AMAZING, YOU AAARE!
LET'S EAT THEM TOGETHER!
WAY TO GO, SEBAS-TIAN!
YOUNG MASTER, HERE!

I-IT CAN'T BE...
GAKU (COLLAPSE)
ガクッ...
.....


HEH!
I AM NOT A CHEF.

CON-GRATU-LATIONS, CHEF SEBAS-TIAN!
A FEW WORDS ON YOUR VICTORY, IF YOU PLEASE!!

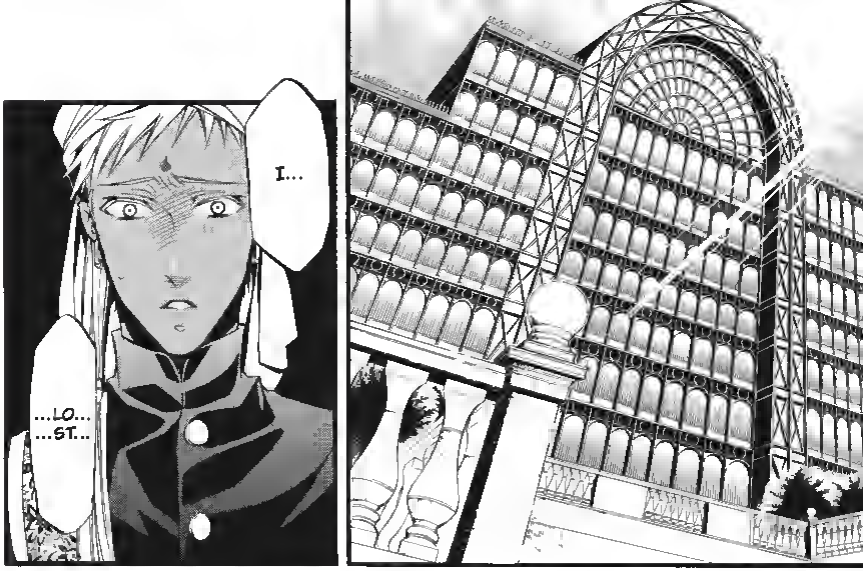
PERO (LICK)
NOW IT MAKES SENSE, SEBASTIAN GOT THE IDEA FOR THIS BUN...
...WHEN HE SAW FINNY EATING EARLIER.

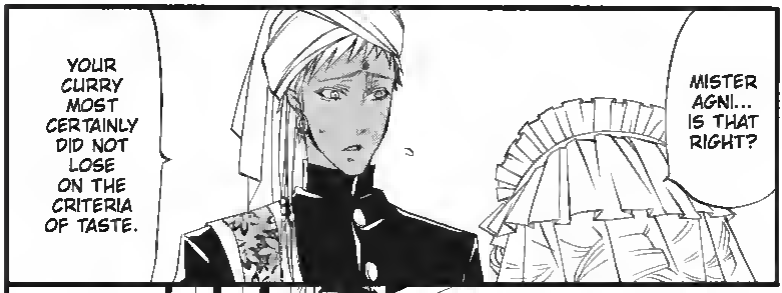
I AM MERELY ...
...A BUTLER.

Black Butler

Chapter 22

At night : The Butler, Victorious


I...
...LO...
...ST...


YOUR CURRY MOST CERTAINLY DID NOT LOSE ON THE CRITERIA OF TASTE.
MISTER AGNI... IS THAT RIGHT?

FURA (WOBBLE)
フラ
MY PLAN...
MY ROYAL WARRANT..
IT WAS A CURRY I SHOULD LIKE TO ENJOY AT LEISURE AT MY MANOR ON THE ISLE OF WIGHT.
I DO NOT DESERVE... SUCH KIND WORDS.

!!!
TA (CRASH)
MY LORD!
MINA!!?
EH...?

HA (GASP)
PRINCE ...
... SOMA ...?
PAGA (FLAP)
I'VE...
... FINALLY FOUND YOU...!!

BA
(ENFOLD)
MINA ...!!
I'VE BEEN LOOKING UP AND DOWN AND ALL OVER FOR YOU.
I WAS SO WORRIED WHEN YOU WERE TAKEN AWAY TO GREAT BRITAIN.
AT LONG LAST... I'M SO GLAD I FOUND YOU.
YOU HAVE NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT ANYMORE. LET'S GO BACK TO THE PALACE TOGETHER!
PRINCE ...!

ARE YOU AN IDIOT?
HERE YOU ARE, HUNTING ME DOWN ALL THE WAY IN ENGLAND AND MAK ING A FINE NUISANCE OF YOUR SELF.
WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE!?
EH ...?

"LET'S GO BACK TO-GETH-ER"?
DON'T MAKE ME LAUGH.
WHO IN THEIR RIGHT MIND WOULD WANT TO GO BACK TO A PLACE LIKE THAT?
GAKU (COLLAPSE)
AH...
AAH...
.....
YOU...
...WANTED TO KEEP THIS...
...A SECRET FROM YOUR PRINCE.
I DIDN'T WANT TO LIVE MY ENTIRE LIFE TIED TO THE SOCIAL POSITION I WAS BORN INTO.
AND THEN, FINALLY, I GOT MY TICKET OUT OF INDIA!

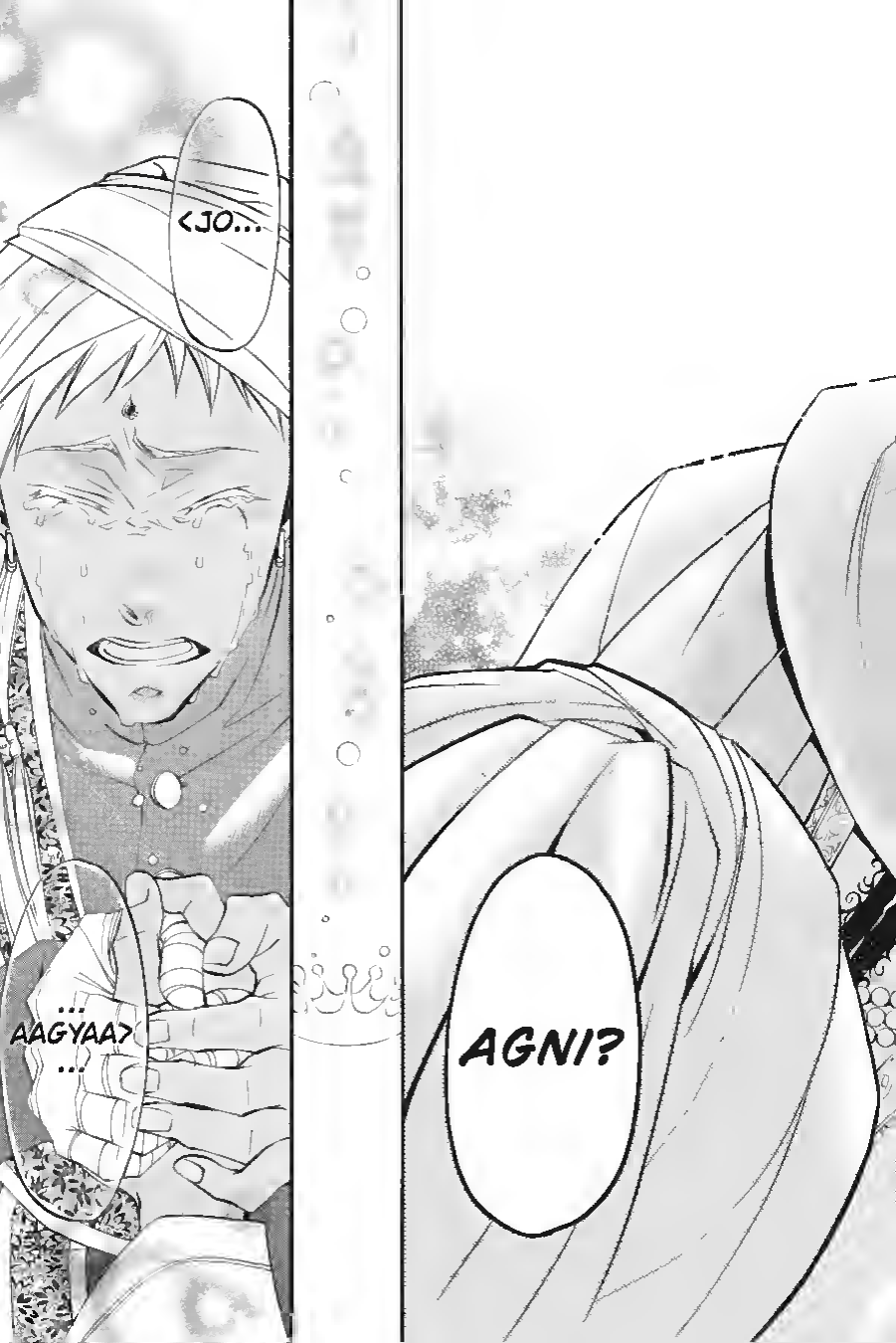
SFX: BUTSU (MUMBLE) BUTSU
SO YOU WILLINGLY CAME HERE WITH WEST...
THAT'S RIGHT. LIFE AS A SERVANT? OR A RICH MAN'S WIFE? EVEN A CHILD KNOWS WHICH IS BETTER.
AND BESIDES...
...I'VE HAD MORE THAN ENOUGH OF BABYSITTING A SELFISH BRAT LIKE YOU!
POTA (DRIP)
...!
MY PRINCE ALONE...
POTA
UGH..
UU...!

MY PRINCE, WHO SOUGHT MINA SO DESPERATELY..
...TO HIM ALONE DID I NOT WANT THIS AWFUL TRUTH REVEALED ...!!
...MY PRINCE... MY PRINCE WOULD —!!
—I SEE.
IF HE, WITH HIS PURE HEART, WAS TO DISCOVER MINA'S TRUE NATURE ...
DO YOU THINK I'LL GO BACK WITH YOU TWO? ARE YOU STUPID!? BUT... I'M OKAY WITH PUTTING ON AN ACT FOR THAT BRAT OF A PRINCE...
...THAT IS, IF YOU COOPERATE WITH US ON A CERTAIN PLAN.

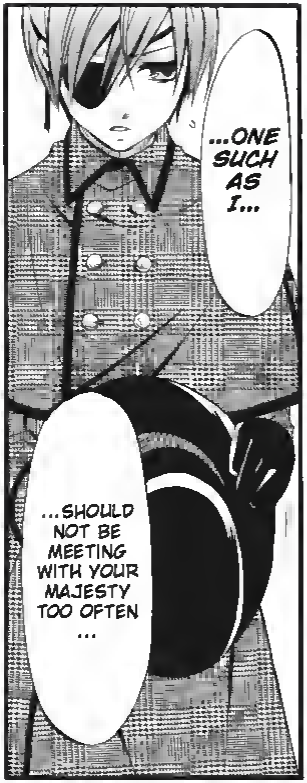
I'M SORRY.
WE WERE TOGETHER ALL THAT TIME, BUT I DIDN'T UNDER-STAND HOW YOU WERE FEELING AT ALL.
FORGIVE ME FOR CHASING YOU TO GREAT BRITAIN WITHOUT STOPPING TO THINK ABOUT THE TROUBLE I WOULD BE CAUSING YOU.
AND ALSO...
...I THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU'VE DONE FOR ME TILL NOW.

I'VE ALWAYS PASSED THE BLAME ONTO OTHER PEOPLE.
SU (SWF)
MY BEING ALONE IN THE PALACE WAS FATHER AND MOTHER'S FAULT.
MINA GOING AWAY WAS WEST'S.
BUT THE REALITY WAS DIFFERENT.
I, WHO DID NOTHING BUT COMPLAIN WHILST SPONGING OFF OF MY PARENTS, WAS TRULY THE ONE AT FAULT.
NO ONE WOULD LOVE SUCH A BRAT.
HOW-EVER...

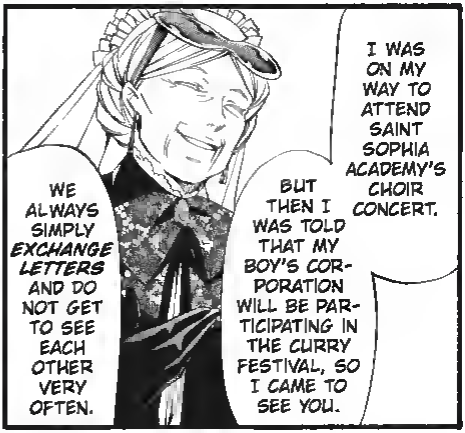
WON'T YOU COME BACK TO MY SIDE AND BE MY <KHAN-SAMA> AGAIN?
...HOW-EVER, YOU REMAINED BY THIS FOOLISH PRINCE'S SIDE...
AND YOU CONTINUED TO DO SO, EVEN AFTER YOU'D LEFT ME.
FORGIVE ME FOR MAKING YOU SHOULDER SUCH HEAVY BURDENS ALL THIS TIME.


‹JO...
...
AAGYAA?
...
AGNI?

SFX: MORI (MUNCH) MORI
ONE WAY OR ANOTHER, EVERY-THING SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN SETTLED.
もり もり
MY
Boy
IS THAT NOT WONDER-FUL...
...MY BOY?
YOUR MAJESTY, I HAVE IMPLORED YOU NOT TO CALL ME THAT—
OH, I SAY—
DID YOU REALLY NOW?
SHE'S TALKING ABOUT THAT EARL...
SIR, SHE MEANS THE YOUNG MASTER...
HFF!
BUT MY BOY, TO ME, YOU WILL ALWAYS BE MY DEAR, LOVELY BOY.
YOUR MAJE-ESTY!—


...ONE SUCH AS I...
...SHOULD NOT BE MEETING WITH YOUR MAJESTY TOO OFTEN ...

AHEM! YOUR MAJESTY.
WHAT BRINGS YOU TO A PLACE SUCH AS THIS TODAY?


I WAS ON MY WAY TO ATTEND SAINT SOPHIA ACADEMY'S CHOIR CONCERT.
BUT THEN I WAS TOLD THAT MY BOY'S CORPORATION WILL BE PARTICIPATING IN THE CURRY FESTIVAL, SO I CAME TO SEE YOU.
WE ALWAYS SIMPLY EXCHANGE LETTERS AND DO NOT GET TO SEE EACH OTHER VERY OFTEN.

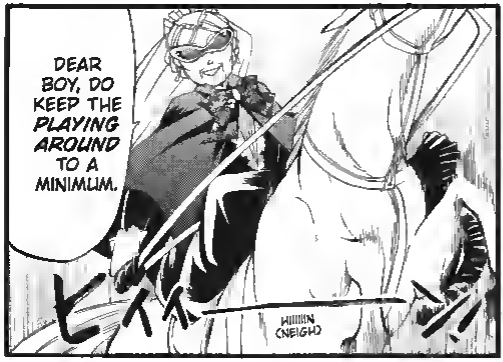
I FEEL LIKE IT WAS JUST YESTERDAY THAT I ATTENDED THE OPENING OF THE GREAT EXHIBITION WITH ALBERT...
ANYHOW, MUCH TIME HAS PASSED SINCE I LAST CAME TO THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

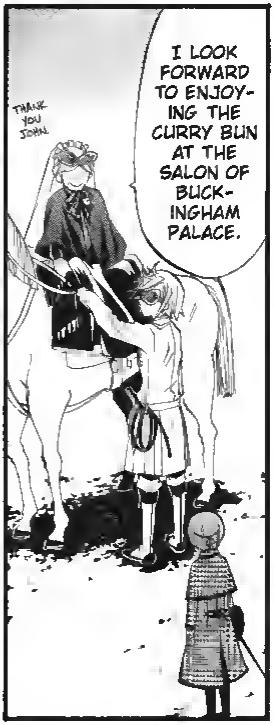
.....

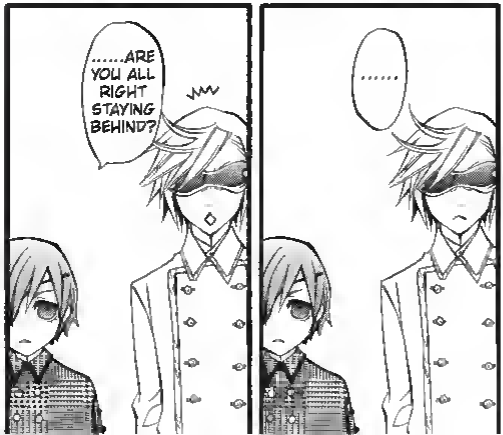
DO NOT SAY THAT.
MY BOY IS STILL LITTLE, BUT HE IS FULFILLING HIS DUTIES SPLENDIDLY JUST AS HIS FATHER VINCENT BEFORE HIM.

OH DEAR. I MUST BE ON MY WAY...
I SHALL HAVE THE LORD CHAMBERLAIN'S OFFICE DISPATCH THE ROYAL WARRANT CERTIFICATE TO YOU.
GUGUN (SNIFFLE)

ALBERRRRT!!
ZUSHA (COLLAPSE)
WOULD THAT I COULD HAVE COME HERE TODAY WITH YOU TOOOO!!


DEAR BOY, DO KEEP THE *PLAYING AROUND* TO A MINIMUM.
HIIIIN (NEIGH)


I LOOK FORWARD TO ENJOYING THE CURRY BUN AT THE SALON OF BUCKINGHAM PALACE.
THANK YOU JOHN!


.....ARE YOU ALL RIGHT STAYING BEHIND?
.....

THANK YOU FOR WINNING.
YOU HAVE MY GRATITUDE.
SHE'S STILL THE SAME AS EVER ...
CIEL!
YOUR MAJESTY, PLEASE WAIT!
...AS A RESULT, YOUR BABY-SITTER HAS RETURNED AS WELL, SO I SUPPOSE THIS IS A CASE OF KILLING TWO BIRDS WITH ONE STONE.
I DIDN'T DO IT FOR YOU. I DID IT FOR MYSELF.
BUT...
...I MIGHT NEVER HAVE COME TO LEARN A NUMBER OF TRUTHS.
IF I HADN'T COME TO GREAT BRITAIN...
CIEL...

I WOULD HAVE STAYED MY NARCISSISTIC SELF, IGNORANT IN THE WAYS OF THE WORLD.
THAT IS, IF I HADN'T MET CIEL.
FROM NOW ON, I'D LIKE TO SEE AND LEARN ABOUT MANY THINGS.
AND SOMEDAY...
...I'LL BECOME A FINE MAN, SECOND TO NONE! I'LL SHOW YOU!
Anyone can simply say the words.
I'LL DO IT! JUST YOU WAIT AND SEE!
YEAH, SURE, SURE.
MY, MY.

HOW LIVELY.
MISTER SEBAS-TIAN!
WAH!
YOU DID IT!! TODAY CALLS FOR A VICTORY CELE-BRATION!!
CONGRAT-ULATIONS!
ZA (RUSTLE)
I DO NOT KNOW HOW TO APOLOGISE TO YOU FOR THESE CIRCUM-STANCES...
SU (SWF)
MISTER SEBAS-TIAN.
DON'T BE MAD
IT'S THE
TRUTH!

I INITIALLY REGRETTED BRINGING MY PRINCE OVER TO GREAT BRITAIN.
...HOW-EVER...
PLEASE, RAISE YOUR HEAD.
MISTER AGNI, THERE IS NO NEED FOR THAT.
MY PRINCE AND I HAVE BEEN TAUGHT MANY THINGS BY YOU.
I CAN-NOT EVEN BEGIN TO EXPRESS MY THANKS FOR ALL YOU HAVE DONE.
...NOW I AM GLAD I BROUGHT HIM HERE.
THANKS ARE NOT NECESSARY.
...I FOUGHT FOR MY OWN REASONS, AND YOU FOR YOURS. THAT IS ALL.
AS I HAVE SAID MANY TIMES...

THE GODDESS KALI IN WHOM YOU BELIEVE WAS ALSO ABLE TO REALISE HER MISTAKES BECAUSE OF THE PAIN THAT BOTH SHE AND THE GOD SHIVA SUFFERED...
...JUST LIKE THE TWO OF YOU HERE NOW.
...GOODNESS.
THE SUN IS ALREADY SETTING. LET US GO HOME.
MOREOVER...
...IT IS SAID THAT EXPERIENCE WITHOUT HARDSHIP IS MEANINGLESS.
TO HAVE AN ENGLISHMAN INSTRUCT US IN A TEACHING OF OUR OWN HERITAGE...
...IS MOST EMBARRASSING
ENGLAND OR INDIA. IT MAKES NO DIFFERENCE
NO MATTER WHERE OR FROM WHAT ERA, THEY ARE ALL ALIKE...

...THOSE BEINGS CALLED HUMANS.

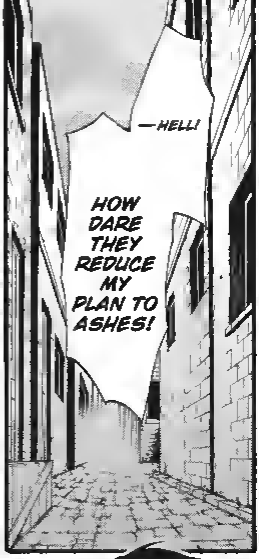
...YES, YOU ARE RIGHT.
THE SUNSET SEEN FROM THE BANKS OF THE GANGES AND THE SUNSET SEEN FROM GREAT BRITAIN...
...THEY ARE BOTH BEAUTIFUL.
!?
DON (SLAM)

WHA ...!?
"WA"
WA...
???
WAAAAA
AAAAAA

WH—!?
PIKURI (SURPRISED)
HIGU (HIC)
M!...
HIGU (HIC)
MINAAAAAA!!
GUSU (SNIFFLE)
GUSU (SOB)
...I TRULY AM SO VERY GLAD...
UWAAAAHN!
CHEER UP, YOUR HIGHNESS!!
STOP IT, YOU'RE RUINING MY CLOTHES!
...WE CAME TO GREAT BRITAIN.
LET ME GO!
UWAAAA-AAAAAHN, CIEL!

BOTH MY PRINCE AND I...
...WERE ABLE TO MEET THE GREATEST OF FRIENDS HERE.
DID YOU SAY...
...FRIENDS?
THIS IS MY FIRST TIME HEARING THAT FROM SOMEONE.

CHEER UP... THERE'S ALWAYS NEXT TIME.


—HELL!
HOW DARE THEY REDUCE MY PLAN TO ASHES!

YES, YES.
NEXT TIME, QUITE.

LORD EARL SAID TO LEAVE THE SMALL-FRY ALONE, BUT THOSE WHO TRY SOMETHING ONCE WILL TRY IT AGAIN AND AGAIN.
HE'S STILL TOO SOFT WHEN IT COMES TO THAT SORT OF THING, I GUESS.

!?
HIYA, YOU TWO.
WHO ARE YOU ...?
NICE TRY BACK THERE.

WELL...
...I DO FIND HIS BOYISH SIDE RATHER LOVABLE.
HEH!

THAT'S WHY I KEEP THIS CAT.
BUT I MUST STRIKE SOME FEAR INTO THE HEARTS OF THE NAUGHTY LITTLE MICE WHO MADE A MESS OF MY GARDEN HERE, IN THE EAST END.
!?
MEOW!
EEP...
WE WON'T DO IT AGAA
GYAAAAAA AAA

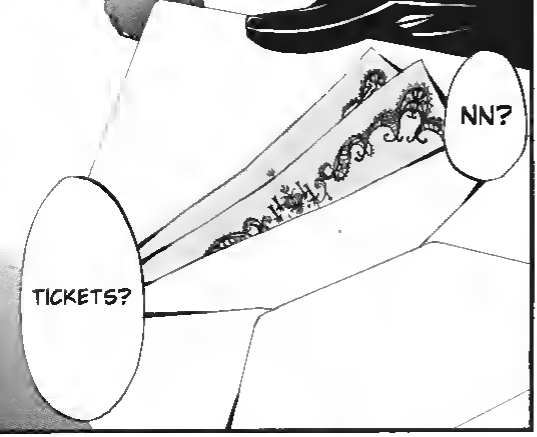
ZUBI
KUSU (SNIFF)
?

ZUBI (SNIFFLE)
DIDN'T YOU SAY YOU WERE SEVENTEEN?
HAAH..
DON'T WIPE YOUR NOSE WITH YOUR SLEEVE!
USE THIS...

IT'S ABOUT TIME YOU STOPPED CRYING!

WHEN DID THIS GET INTO MY POCKET!?
AAH
HER MAJESTY'S MAN PUT IT THERE A MOMENT AGO.
WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME!?
YOU DID NOT ASK.

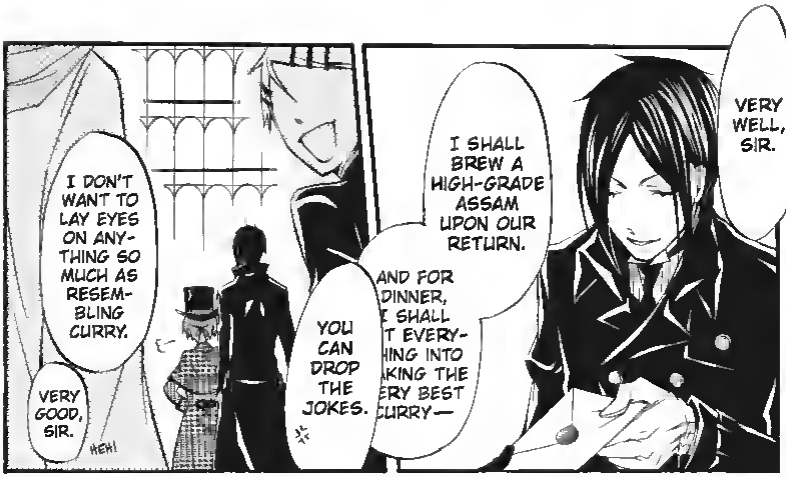
...!
THIS IS—

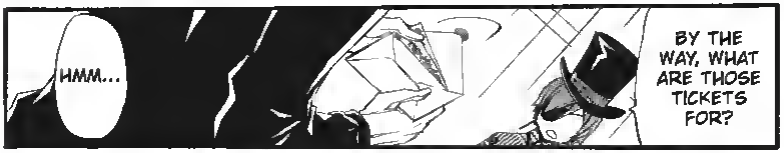

NN?
TICKETS?

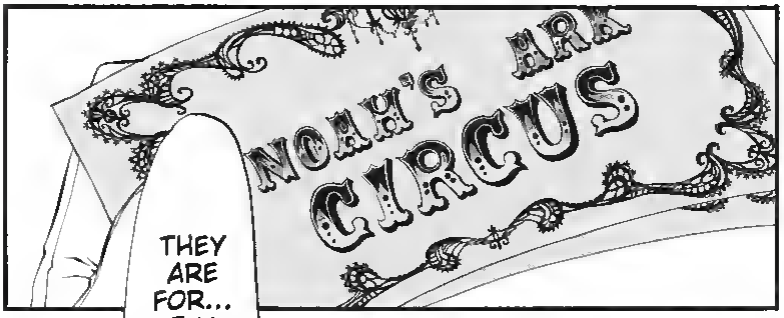
TCH!
CHIIN CHONKKAO
KASA

HAAH!
...I'M TIRED.
BY THE WAY, WHERE DID MISTER LAU GO WHERE?
YEAH HE AIN'T AROUND, HUH
I WANT TO GO HOME AND RELAX OVER A CUP OF TEA.

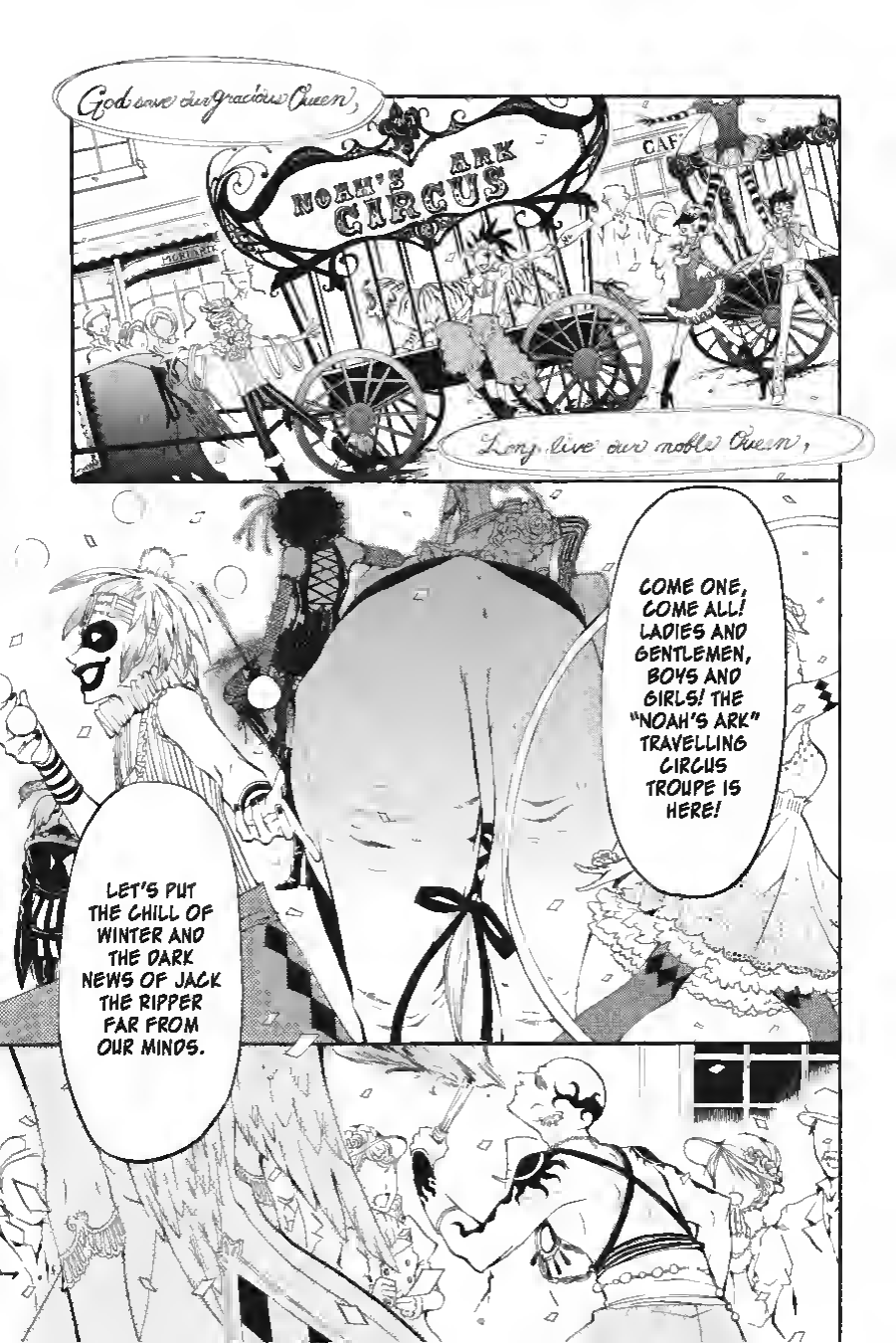
DO YOU WANT TO DIE?
PERHAPS THEY ARE CHRISTMAS GIFTS?
FOR HER DEAR BOY.


VERY WELL, SIR.
I SHALL BREW A HIGH-GRADE ASSAM UPON OUR RETURN.
AND FOR DINNER, I SHALL T EVERY-HING INTO AKING THE ERY BEST URRY—
YOU CAN DROP THE JOKES.
I DON'T WANT TO LAY EYES ON ANY-THING SO MUCH AS RESEM-BLING CURRY.
VERY GOOD, SIR.
HEH!


HMM...
BY THE WAY, WHAT ARE THOSE TICKETS FOR?


NOAH'S ARK CIRCUS
THEY ARE FOR... THE CIRCUS.

NOAH'S CIRCUS


God save our gracious Queen,
NOAH'S ARK CIRCUS
Long live our noble Queen,
COME ONE, COME ALL! LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, BOYS AND GIRLS! THE "NOAH'S ARK" TRAVELLING CIRCUS TROUPE IS HERE!
LET'S PUT THE CHILL OF WINTER AND THE DARK NEWS OF JACK THE RIPPER FAR FROM OUR MINDS.

On three our hopes we lift,
God save us all.
NOW...
...THE SHOW OF THE CENTURY IS ABOUT TO BEGIN!

Black Butler

CHAPTER.23

At midnight : The Butler, Agitated

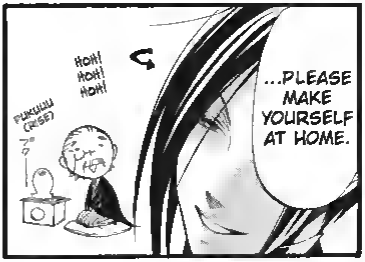
SHA (OPEN)
YOUNG MAS-TER.
IT IS TIME TO RISE.
KUA (YAWN)
TODAY'S TEA IS HARRODS' WHITE DARJEE-LING.
CURRY
Funton
BASA (FLAP)
THE MANOR REALLY IS THE MOST COMFORT-ABLE PLACE OF ALL.
I AM PLEASED TO HEAR YOU SAY THAT.
CIRCUS
NOAH'S ARK

AS FOR THE DAY'S SCHEDULE... FIRST, YOU HAVE NEW PRODUCT PROPOSALS TO APPROVE THIS MORNING.
ALSO, THE NEWLY ESTABLISHED FOODSTUFFS DEPARTMENT HAS SENT AN ESTIMATE OF COSTS FOR BUILDING THE HINDUSTANI RESTAURANT.
IN THE AFTERNOON, MADAME BRIGHT WILL BE HERE FOR YOUR PIANO LESSON ...
...AND MADAME RODKIN FOR YOUR FRENCH LESSON.
THIS EVENING, LORD RANDALL OF THE YARD IS EXPECTED TO ARRIVE JUST PAST SIX.
AAH
ON THE MATTER OF COMPENSATION FOR THE RECENT ANGLO-INDIAN AFFAIR, HM?
YES, SIR.
SFX: DO (STOMP) DO DO DO DO
WHAT SHALL I MAKE FOR YOUR AFTERNOON SNACK TOD—
CIEL!!
CIEL!!
BAN (WHUMP)
WHAT IS THAT SQUARE BOX!? THERE ARE PEOPLE INSIDE!!

IN ANY CASE!
AAAH, DO BE QUIET. DON'T RAISE YOUR VOICE THIS EARLY IN THE MORNING!
VERY EXCITED!!
THERE WAS A MAN WHO STRUCK DOWN THE VILLAINS WITH A STICK!!
EEH!?
I'M STAYING IN GREAT BRITAIN FOR YOUR SAKE OF COURSE!
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
GOING BACK?
WHEN ARE YOU LOT GOING BACK TO INDIA!!?
PRIIII-IINCE!
MY PRIII-IINCE!
THAT ISN'T ——!
WHEN I DECLARED I'D BECOME A FINE GENTLE-MAN, DIDN'T YOU SAY YOU THOUGHT I WAS ALL TALK?
SO I THOUGHT I WOULD SHOW YOU THE PROCESS OF MY BECOMING SUCH A GENTLEMAN EVERY STEP OF THE WAY!

SO YOU WERE WITH LORD CIEL, AFTER ALL.
YOU WERE NOT IN YOUR ROOM, SO I WAS WONDERING WHERE YOU HAD GONE.
HYOKO (POP)
NOW SEE HERE!
WHAT ARE YOU PLAYING AT? "YOUR ROOM"? I DON'T RECALL EVER GIVING YOU PERMISSION TO LIVE IN THIS—
NEVER MIND THAT NOW! HOW DOES THAT SQUARE BOX WORK?
AS I SAID!!
LISTEN WHEN I'M TALKING TO YOU-UUUU!!
KOTSU (TAP)
KOTSU (TAP)
KOTSU (TAP)
...AND SO...
PAN (CLAP)
PAN

LORD RANDALL WILL ARRIVE JUST PAST SIX THIS EVENING.
WE MUST NOT BRING SHAME UPON THE YOUNG MASTER AND THE ILLUSTRIOUS PHANTOMHIVE NAME.
MEY-RIN, POLISH THE BANISTER OF THE FRONT STAIR-CASE.
FINNY, REMOVE THE SNOW FROM THE TREES IN THE INNER COURT-YARD.
BALDO, PLEASE TAKE CARE OF THE CHICKEN FOR TO-NIGHT'S SOUP.
MIS-TER TANA-KA...
NO PROBLEM!!
"KAAAA"
I WILL. YES, I WILL!


...PLEASE MAKE YOURSELF AT HOME.
HOH! HOH! HOH!
FUKUUU (RISE)

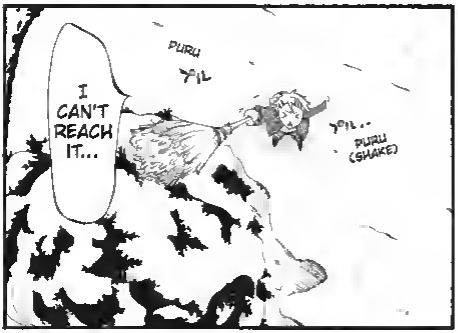
MIS-TER AGNI.
AS I AM IMPOSING UPON THE KINDNESS OF THIS MANOR, PLEASE FEEL FREE TO ASK ANYTHING OF ME.
WHERE IS PRINCE SOMA?

LISTEN. DO NOT GET NEED-LESSLY CARRIED AWAY AND TAKE IT INTO YOUR HEADS TO DO MORE THAN YOU HAVE BEEN ASKED.
JUST FOLLOW THE DIREC-TIONS GIVEN TO YOU—
GACHA (KACHAK)
?

YOUNG MASTER INTENDS TO PUSH THROUGH THE DAY'S AGENDA WHILE PRINCE SOMA IS ABSORBED WITH HIS TOY, HM... WHAT A MARVELOUS IDEA.
YOU'RE IN MY WAY
AHA...
HE IS ENGROSSED BY THE BOX KNOWN AS THE "TELE-VISION" THAT HE BORROWED FROM LORD CIEL.

VERY WELL. EVERYONE, TO YOUR POSTS!
YES, SIIIIIR!

THEN MAY I ASK YOU TO CLEAN THE WIN-DOWS?
AS YOU ARE TALLER THAN I AM.
YES!! YOU MAY COUNT ON ME!


I CAN'T REACH IT...
PURU
Y'IL
Y'IL..
PURU (SHAKE)

HRRN.

TYCOON (CONG)

ズゥゥゥゥン
ZUUUUN (FWSH)
ソイヤ!!
HAKU (CRACK)
ドドドドド
SFX: SAARA (PALE)
AAH! I BROKE THE TREE!!
WH-WH-WH-WH-WHAT DO I DO!!?
NOW YOU ARE ABLE TO REACH, YES?
WOOW, SOOO HIIIGH !!
MY BOY!!
BUEEEEH!
MISTER SEBASTIAN'LL SCOLD ME AGAIIIN!
WHAT HAS HAPPENED !?
WELL?
IN THAT CASE, YOU HAD ONLY TO SAY SOMETHING SOONER...

I'M TOO STRONG, AND I'M ALWAYS MESSING UP 'COS I CAN'T CONTROL MYSELF.
PASA (RUSTLE)
PASA
TREES ARE LIVING BEINGS TOO, SO YOU MUST HANDLE THEM WITH CARE.
WITH CARE... HUH?
THAT ISN'T SOMETHING I WOULD'VE UNDERSTOOD BEFORE COMING HERE...
...BUT NOW...
...IT MAKES PERFECT SENSE!
AH YES... TELL ME, WHY DID YOU BECOME A GARDENER, MY BOY?
PIKU (TWITCH)
YOUNG MASTER FOUND ME AND TOOK ME IN A LITTLE OVER A YEAR AGO...
...
FOUND YOU?
BEFORE, I DIDN'T GET TO GO OUTSIDE LIKE THIS ALL THE TIME, SO NOW EVERY DAY'S A LOT OF FUN!
I CAN COME IN CONTACT WITH TREES AND INSECTS... AND PEOPLE TOO...
SUTO (TMP)

...BUT...
...AT FIRST, I WAS FRIGHTENED.
IT'S REALLY HARD FOR ME TO TOUCH SOMETHING WITHOUT BREAKING IT...
MY BOY ...?
AH!
!?
WH—
WHAT IS IT !?
DON'T GRAB(M)O
...THINGS SEEM TO BE IN HAND OVER THERE.
AH HA HA! YOU ARE AN ABSENT-MINDED ONE.
COME, LET US DO IT TOGETHER.
I FORGOT TO GET THE SNOW ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE TREE!!
I'VE ONLY DONE HALF OF MY WORK.!!

I'LL KEEP THE BONES FOR THE BROTH.
MAYBE I OUGHTA KEEP THE FAT FOR MAKIN' WHAT-EVER TOO.
DAAN (THWAK)
WHAT A PAIN IN THE BUTT —!
GEEZ —!
AND SO...
RIGHT ONNN! TODAY'S A SPECIAL DAY 'COS WE HAVE A GUEST COMIN'!
...THE CHEF'LL SEASON THE DISH HIMSELF !!
JAKI (CHAK)
DON (BOOM)

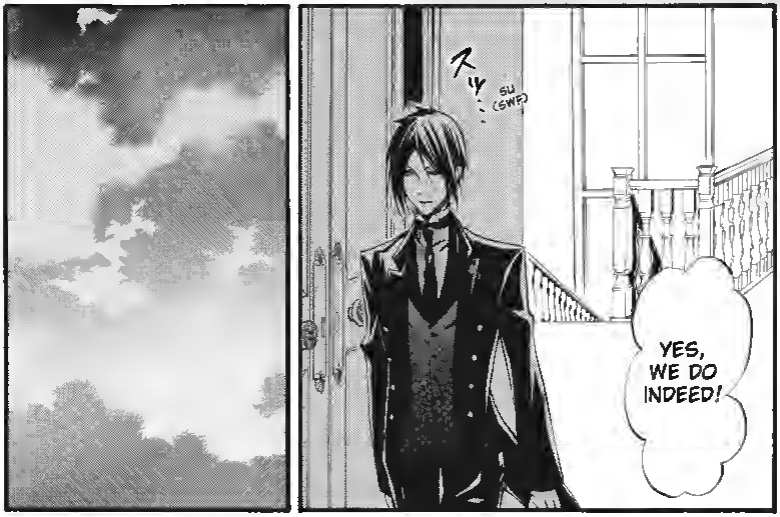
MISTER CHEF!! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT!?
KONGARI (BURNT) こんがり
IF I LOOK ALL RIGHT TO YA, THOSE EYES ON YER HEAD MUST JUST BE FER SHOW.
PUSU (PSS) プス
PUSU プス
GOHO (KOFF) ゴホ
GOHO ゴホ
THE FLAMES WERE JUST A BIT TOO STRONG, AND A BUNCH OF STUFF GOT BURNT.
I GOT THAT ALL UP HERE, BUT...
...BEFORE I CAME HERE, I'D NEVER COOKED OR EATEN MEALS ALL RELAXED LIKE.
AAAH.
KOFF
STOCK FROM CHICKEN BONES TASTES BETTER IF YOU TAKE TIME TO SIMMER IT SLOWLY.
SFX: PATA (PAT) PATA
GUESS I GOTTA GET USED TO IT...
SO I TRY TO DO IT ALL FAST AND MAKE A MESS.

MISTER CHEF..
...THIS KINDA PEACEFUL ENVIRON-MENT.
I WILL HELP YOU CLEAN UP.
YOU GO ON 'N' GET BACK TO YER STATION TOO!
ALL RIGHT!! I'LL CLEAN UP HERE AND START COOKING ALL OVER AGAIN!
YEAH, WHAT-EVER!
スッ
SU (SWP)
THINGS APPEAR TO BE IN ORDER HERE AS WELL.
.....
JUST SO!
I'M TELLIN' YA, IT'S FINE! YOU'VE GOT YOUR OWN JOB TO DO, RIGHT?
SERVANT'S DUTY IS TO TAKE CARE OF HIS OWN STATION!

Ah!
MISS MA—
Goood!!
SPAR-KLING, THEY ARE!
ALL THAT'S LEFT IS TO WAX THEM IS ALL...
Hm-hmmm! ♬
MISS MAA-AAA-AAID !!?
PITCH-BLACK...
DID IT AGAIN, I DID...
AH YES...YOUR EYESIGHT IS RATHER POOR, IS IT NOT?
I MISTOOK THE SHOE POLISH FOR THE WAX ON SIGHT...
ZUUUN COOOMO

PERHAPS YOU MIGHT ASK FOR A NEW PAIR—
N—
NEVER!!
I—
IN MY CASE, IT'S VERY, VERY BAD FAR-SIGHTED-NESS, IT IS.
AND THE PRE-SCRIPTION OF THESE GLASSES HAS GONE A BIT OFF.
AND THIS MAID UNIFORM TOO.
YOUNG MASTER BOUGHT THESE FOR ME. MY TREA-SURE, THEY ARE!
I'D NEVER WORN SKIRTS OR ANY SUCH THING TILL I CAME HERE, SO...

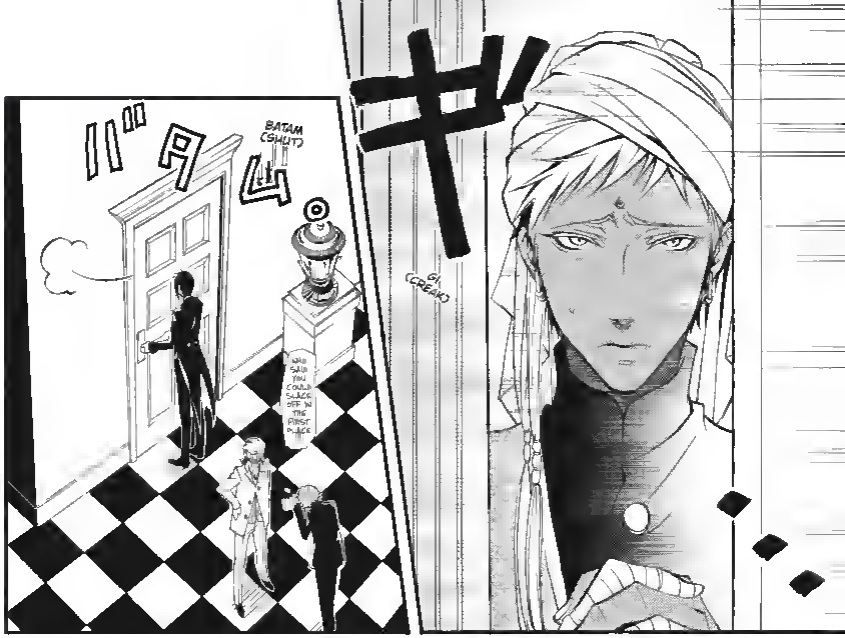
...I'm happy to be a maid now.
AND IF I TAKE MY GLASSES OFF, I CAN SEE FAR AWAY VERY WELL!
SO I'M FINE, I AM!
I SEE EVERYONE HERE TRULY LOVES THIS MANOR.


スッ
SU (SWF)
YES, WE DO INDEED!

EH?
WHAT DID YOU JUST—
I ASKED YOU TO STAY PUT IN YOUR ROOM ONCE THE GUESTS ARRIVE, MISTER AGNI.
Wh—
WHAT FOR?
TODAY'S GUEST IS LORD RANDALL, COMMISSIONER OF SCOTLAND YARD.
HE IS ALSO IN CHARGE OF THE CASE INVOLVING THE ANGLO-INDIAN HANGING INCIDENTS.
!!
MIGHT HE BE COMING TO ARREST ME!?
NO.
NO ONE ELSE KNOWS THE TRUE IDENTITY OF THE PERPETRATOR, SO DO NOT WORRY.
GULP
GULP
GULP

STILL... THOUGH I WAS UNDER ORDERS, I CAUSED ALL THOSE INCIDENTS.
SHOULD I NOT BE JUDGED IN A PROPER PLACE AND ATONE FOR MY SINS?
IF YOU ARE TAKEN AWAY NOW, WHAT WILL BECOME OF PRINCE SOMA?
!!
ARE YOU GOING TO BREAK YOUR VOW TO SERVE THE PRINCE BY HIS SIDE?
HAAH
B—
UT—
EVERY-THING HAS BEEN SETTLED, AND THOSE INCIDENTS WILL NEVER OCCUR AGAIN.
LEAVE THE REST TO US, AND MAKE FOR YOUR QUAR-TERS.
ALL RIGHT ?
.....

GASHA (STEP)
IT MUST HAVE BEEN A LONG JOURNEY. WELCOME.
UWAAAAH! WHAT A WONDERFUL MANOR ...!!
I HAVE NO DESIRE TO EVEN SET FOOT IN THIS HIVE OF PHANTOMS THAT IS THE PHANTOMHIVE MANOR!
CEASE YOUR WIDE-EYED WONDERMENT AT ONCE. YOU OUGHT TO BE ASHAMED !!
I SHALL FETCH MY MASTER, SO PLEASE WAIT A MOMENT IN THIS ROOM IF YOU WOULD...
KACHA (KACHAK)


BATAM (SHUT)
GI (CREAK)

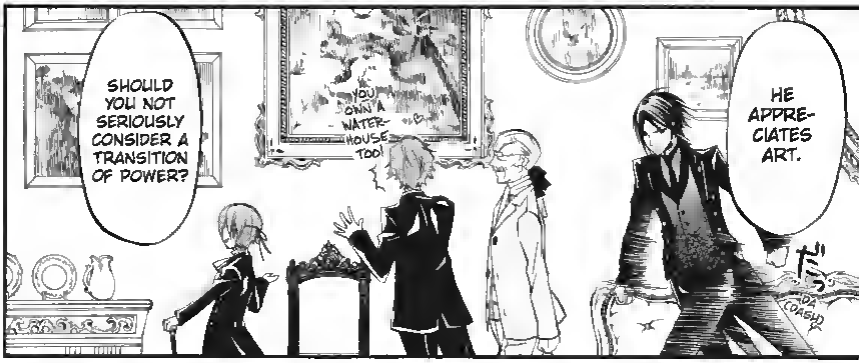
I HAVE GIVEN MUCH THOUGHT TO THE MATTER SINCE THEN, AND I BELIEVE I SHOULD SURRENDER TO THE POLICE ...!!
Mister Agni, what is the matter? And after I urged you repeatedly to stay out of sight——
GI
PUSH
WELL, WELL. LORD COMMISSIONER.
You do understand, don't you?
Listen to me. If you turn yourself in here, you will inconvenience not just Prince Some, but you will also be causing an enormous inconvenience to the young master.

WELCOME TO THE PHANTOM-HIVE MANOR.
TCH!
DINNER IS SERVED.
IF YOU WOULD PLEASE COME THIS WAY...
So do as I say and stay in your room!
.....
IT'S RARE TO SEE YOU BRING SOMEONE ALONG. IS HE A CANDI-DATE FOR YOUR SUCCES-SOR?
YOU ARE AT THAT AGE, AFTER ALL.
I'M WELL AWARE THAT YOU DON'T WISH TO DINE WITH THE LIKES OF ME, BUT..
...THIS HAS BEEN TRADITION FOR GEN-ERATIONS.
IF YOU HADN'T MADE AN APPEARANCE AT THE CRIME SCENE, HE WOULD NEVER HAVE COME TO KNOW ANYTHING.

KUH ...!
!?
I DON'T MIND HAVING HIM KNOW, BUT...
...YOU'RE THE ONE WHO CAN'T AFFORD TO HAVE OUR RELA-TIONSHIP BECOME PUBLIC, RIGHT?
!?
BAAN (BANG)
HAAH!
HAAH!
I BEG YOUR PARDON. THE DOOR WAS OPEN, SO...

I HAVE MADE MY DECISION. OTHERWISE, GOD—
GACHA GACHA
GACHA CHACHA
ガチャ ガチャ
Please stop this immediately!
... Mister Agni ...!!
IF THE DOOR FITS POORLY, HAVE IT FIXED AT ONCE.
YES, SIR.
THIS!
ALL OF THESE PAINTINGS ARE GLOOMY!!
HNPH!
THEY ARE INDEED WORTHY OF A HIVE OF PHANTOMS!
IS IT A... MILLAIS?
WHY, IF IT'S NOT HAMLET'S OPHELIA!
I DO! THE MUTED COLOURS HAVE ATMOSPHERE, AND...
CORRECT. DO YOU LIKE THE PRE-RAPHAELITES?
MYYY...BUT THIS IS A GORGEOUS GALLERY.
THERE ARE SO MANY PAINTINGS...

SHA (SHHK)
!?


SHOULD YOU NOT SERIOUSLY CONSIDER A TRANSITION OF POWER?
YOU OWN A WATER-HOUSE TOO!
HE APPRE-CIATES ART.
DA (CRASH)

SHA
APPRE-CIATING ART DOES NOT MAKE HIM OF ANY USE AS A DETEC-TIVE!
SORRY SIR...
YOU'RE HARSH!

EVERYONE, THIS WAY PLEASE.
SFX: BUN (WAVE) BUN
HEEY CIIIEL —!
I'VE HAD MY FILL OF THAT BOX! LET'S PLAY CARDS TOG—
THE TABLE HAS ALREADY BEEN SET.
!?
MPH!
BA (LEAP)
WH-WH-WH-WH-WH-WH-WHAT!?
HAVE I DONE SOMETHING WRONG!?
PRINCE SOMA.

I THOUGHT I HEARD SOME-ONE...
IT WAS SIMPLY YOUR IMAGINA-TION.
KOKU
KOKU
KOKU
.....!!
KOKU (NOD)
AS WE HAVE GUESTS THIS EVENING, WOULD YOU PLEASE KEEP QUIETLY TO YOUR ROOM?
NOW THERE IS A GOOD LAD.
GOOD-NESS.
PHEW

ガチャ
GACHA (CRACHAK)

BAM (SLAM!!)
DAN (STOMP)
WHAT!? WHAT IS GOING ON!?
AH WAH WAH WAH WAH!
IT'S PITCH DARK!
I'M SCARED!
AND YOU CALL YOURSELF A DETECTIVE!? YOU SHOULD BE ASHAMED OF YOURSELF!
BOSS (GRIM)
FU (GUSH)
MY APOLOGIES. THE LIGHTS SEEM TO HAVE GONE OUT.
BO (WOOSH)

WAS IT THE WIND OR SOMETHING, SEBASTIAN?
YES.
IT WAS SOMETHING... OTHER THAN THE WIND...
?
THE DINING ROOM IS THAT WAY. COME, LET US GO.
MMMPH!
MMMPH!!
...NOW THEN.
NOW THAT WE'RE SETTLED IN, LET'S GET DOWN TO BUSINESS.

I DO NOT WISH TO STAY IN THIS CREEPY DOGHOUSE FOREVER.
SU (SWF)
INDEED
...WELL ...
...THIS AMOUNT IS TO BE EXPECTED FROM A CASE OF THAT LEVEL, HM?
WERE YOU KEPT IN THE DARK ABOUT THIS, MISTER SUCCESSOR?
THE COMMISSIONERS HAVE LONG RUN ERRANDS FOR THE QUEEN, YOU SEE...
!?
PAYABLE IN THE PUBLIC DRAWING OFFICE
London Gazette
BANK
PENNY
Victoria
WHAT IS THAT !?

THEREFORE, THEIR FUNDING AND RECOMPENSE IS NOT INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL BUDGET.
PHANTOMHIVE IS A A SPECIAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY KEPT SECRET FROM THE GENERAL PUBLIC.
...AND THEY TAKE THE TROUBLE OF BRINGING FOOD TO THE DOG-HOUSE.
...YOU, SCOTLAND YARD.
...THUS, OUR HIGH EXPENSES ARE PAID FOR BY NONE OTHER THAN...
WITHOUT LEGAL EVIDENCE, YOU CANNOT DECLARE TO THE CITIZENS THAT WE EXIST...
IT'S THE VERY DEFINITION OF A BRIBE.
ON PAPER, IT GETS CHALKED UP TO "REWARDS" ...
...JUST AS FOR BARNABY AND THE OTHER POLICE DOGS.
NO!! THAT'S LMOST KE A RIBE—
THERE IS NO "ALMOST" ABOUT IT.

BUT THE CULPRITS HAVE NOT BEEN ARRESTED Y—
ENOUGH, ABBERLINE.
BOTH HER MAJESTY AND PHANTOMHIVE HAVE DECLARED THE AFFAIR TO BE "OVER," SO...
GATA (CLATTER)
LET'S HAVE A TOAST.
THIS HAS BEEN THE CUSTOM FOR GENERATIONS.. COME, I HAVE PROCURED THE CHOICEST CHAMPAGNE TO COMMEMORATE THE END OF THIS AFFAIR.
BAAN (BANG)
...THE PERPETRATORS NO LONGER EXIST.
THE TRUTH IS, I—
ABOUT THOSE INCIDENTS—!

ポーン
SUPOOON
(POPPP)

SAKI
FASHI (WHAP)
DOSA (THUD)

ARE YOU QUITE UNHURT?
OH DEAR... PARDON ME.
シュウウ…
SHUUUU (SHIVER)
KOKU
KOKU (NOD)
JIIIN (STIIING)
AH.
I'LL JUST GRAB A LITTLE SOMETHING BEFORE THEY CATCH ME...
YOROYOROYORO (SWAY)
AHHH, I'M STARVING.
CHOKKARO (MIMIC)

LORD RANDALL, I APOLOGISE FOR THE FUSS.
..INDI-
..S TO
OOT?
AND THEY ARE...
WHO ARE THEY?
AH WAH WAH WAH!
...SOMA, PRINCE OF BENGAL...
...AND AGNI, THE PRINCE'S ATTENDANT.
THEY ARE FRIENDS WHO ARE STAYING ON AT OUR MANOR TO LEARN ABOUT BRITISH CULTURE.
CHIRA (PEER)
THESE TWO ARE ...
HAAH...
CIEL! YOU FINALLY ACKNOWLEDGED IIIIT!!
YOU CONSIDER ME YOUR BEST FRIEND TOO!!
WHO ARE YOU CALLING MY BEST —!
GUEH!!
ぎゅ ぎゅ
GYOYUUN (SQUEE-E)
PAA (SPARKLE)

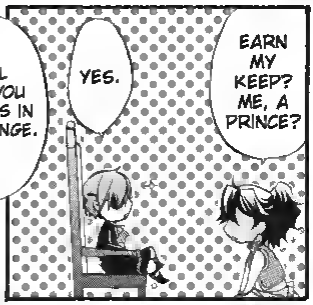
PLEASE ALLOW THEM TO BE PRESENT AT THIS CELEBRATION.
WE HAVE OVERCOME MANY OBSTACLES TOGETHER WITH THEM TO GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THE RECENT INCIDENTS.
※ YOU'RE CHOKING ME ENOUGH ALREADY!
CEEEEL!
SU (SWF)
CHEERS!
THEN ...
...ONCE MORE...
...LET US TOAST TO THE END OF THIS AFFAIR...

FORGIVE ME!!
I DON'T CARE IF YOU GIVE YOURSELF UP AT A PLACE THAT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH ME...
...BUT DON'T INVOLVE ME ANY FURTHER! I'VE HAD ENOUGH!
SITTING ON THEIR HEELS
MISTER SEBASTIAN STOPPED ME, BUT I JUST —!!
HE'S RIGHT, AGNI.
DO NOT CAUSE TROUBLE FOR MY BEST FRIEND.
I FORBID YOU TO SURRENDER YOURSELF. THIS IS A COMMAND!
<JO AAGYAA> ...
Gonb!

...VERY WELL.
I GIVE YOU LEAVE TO STAY.
BUT!!
THOSE WHO DO NOT EARN THEIR KEEP AREN'T WELCOME HERE.

YES, YOUR HIGHNESS.
WELL, MY DEAR FRIEND CIEL HAS GIVEN US HIS PERSONAL PERMISSION TO STAY, SO LET US GO TO BED, AGNI.
GARARARA (CRASH)

YOU'RE GOING TO BECOME A FINE GENTLEMAN WHO DOESN'T RELY ON HIS PARENTS, RIGHT?
!!?
PAA (GLOW)
IN OTHER WORDS, THAT MONEY WILL BE TRULY YOURS BECAUSE YOU'LL HAVE EARNED IT YOURSELF.
I'LL PAY YOU WAGES IN EXCHANGE.

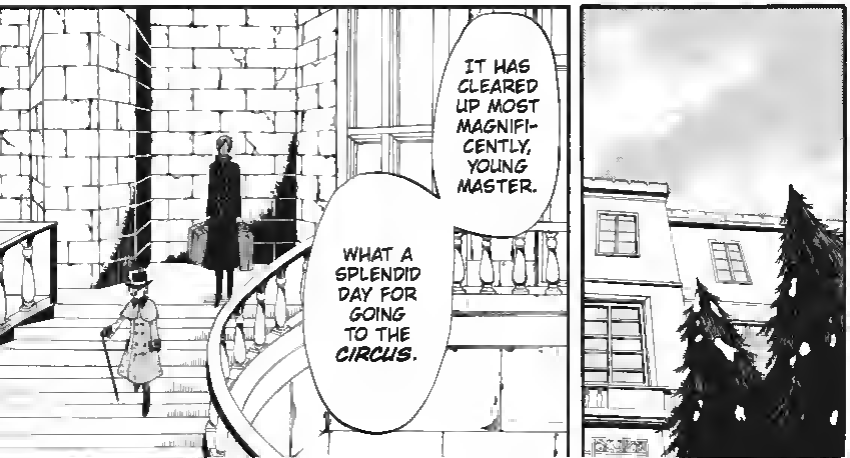

YES.
EARN MY KEEP? ME, A PRINCE?

LET'S SEE...
WHY DON'T I HAVE YOU AND AGNI GO TO LONDON AND MANAGE MY TOWN HOUSE?

WELL...
WHAT SHOULD I DO?
INDEED, INDEED!

I'LL TAKE IT!!!
LEAVE IT TO ME!!
IT'S A DIFFICULT JOB. I CAN'T ASK JUST ANYBODY TO DO IT.
THINK YOU CAN HANDLE IT?

NOW I CAN LIVE IN PEACE FOR A WHILE.
TO BED, TO BED.
OH, OH OH! MY LEGS ARE CRAMPED!!
MY PRINCE, HOLD YOURSELF TOGETHER!!


IT HAS CLEARED UP MOST MAGNIFICENTLY, YOUNG MASTER.
WHAT A SPLENDID DAY FOR GOING TO THE CIRCUS.

SAFE TRAAA-VELS!
YOUNG MASTER! YA TAKE CARE NOW!
Please come back soooon!
YOUNG MASTER AND I WILL BE WORK-ING IN LONDON AGAIN FOR SOME TIME.
...TAKE CARE OF THE MANOR WHILE I'M AWAY.
... YOU LOT...
YES, MY LORD!!
To be continued in Black Butler 6

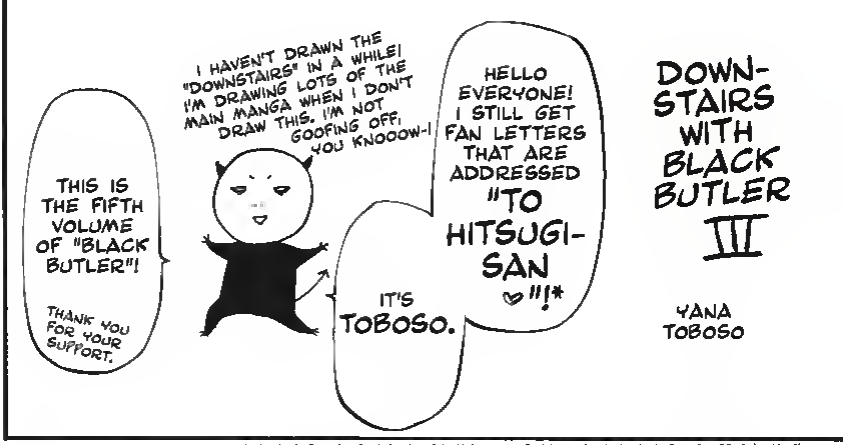
Black Butler
黒執事

Downstairs

Wakana Haduki
Akiyo Satorigi
SuKe
Bell
7
M
Nobuko.M
*
Takeshi Kuma
*
Yana Toboso

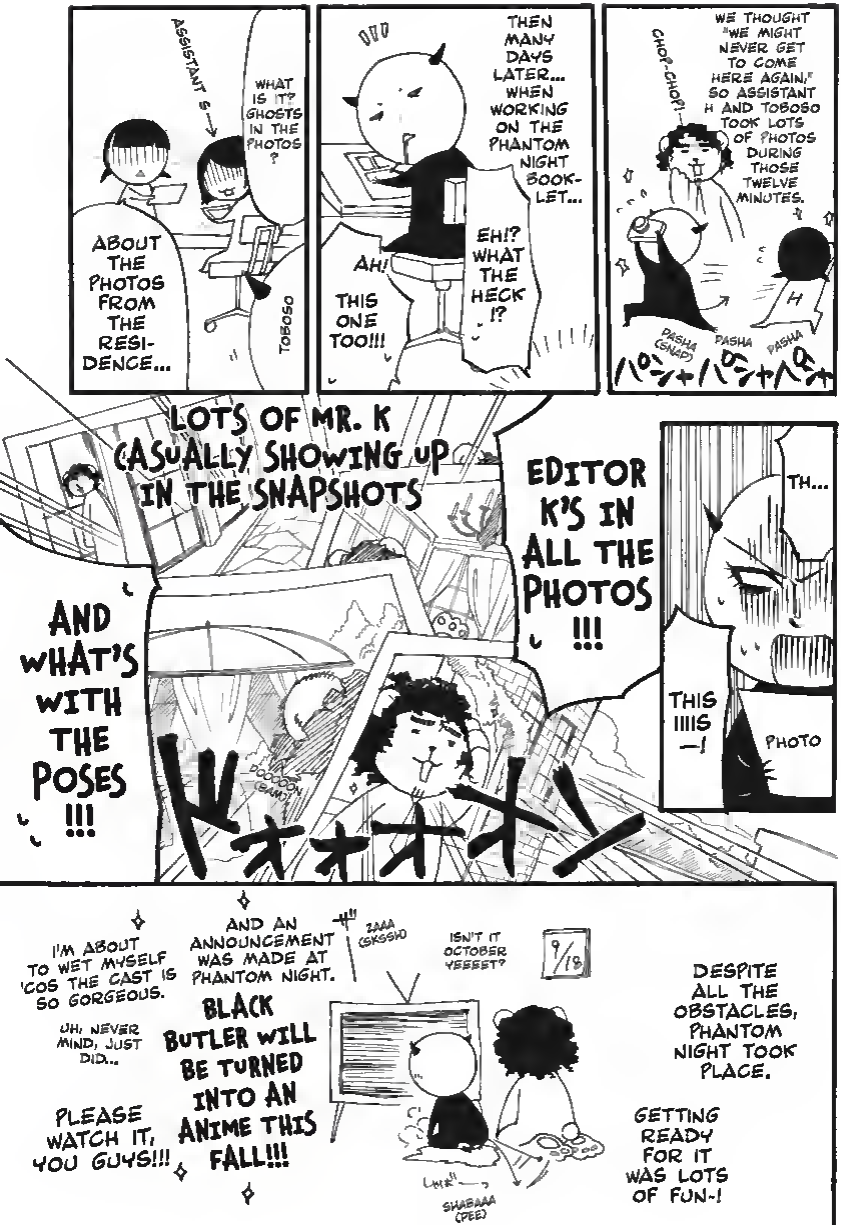
SpecialThanks

Yana's Mother
and You!


DOWN-STAIRS WITH BLACK BUTLER III
YANA TOBOSO
THIS IS THE FIFTH VOLUME OF "BLACK BUTLER"!
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.
I HAVEN'T DRAWN THE "DOWNSTAIRS" IN A WHILE! I'M DRAWING LOTS OF THE MAIN MANGA WHEN I DON'T DRAW THIS. I'M NOT GOOFING OFF, YOU KNOOOW-!
HELLO EVERYONE! I STILL GET FAN LETTERS THAT ARE ADDRESSED "TO HITSUGI-SAN ♡"!*
IT'S TOBOSO.

*THE KANJI FOR "TOBOSO" CAN BE EASILY CONFUSED WITH THE KANJI FOR "COFFIN" (HITSUGI).

I VISITED THE RESIDENCE TO DRAW THE MANGA THAT WAS INCLUDED IN THE SOUVENIR BOOKLET...
WHOOOA!
ASSISTANT
THE VENUE WAS A RESIDENCE WHERE A COUNT ACTUALLY LIVED!!
HURRAAAY!
ON JULY 25TH, WE HELD "PHANTOM NIGHT," A THANK-YOU EVENT FOR OUR FANS!
THE COUNT OGASAWARA RESIDENCE DEATH!*
*A PARODY OF GRELLE'S CATCHPHRASE IN JAPANESE: "DEATH" IS A HOMOPHONE OF "TO BE" (DESU).
BUT YOU'VE ONLY GOT TWELVE MINUTES, SO HURRY!
YOU CAN GO INSIDE AND TAKE PHOTOS NOW!
YOU FIEND!
EEEEEEH!?
SEVERAL TENS OF MINUTES LATER
SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING!
BLAH, BLAH...
KNOCK
WE'RE BUSY WITH OUR MEETING, SO WAIT AT THE CAFÉ!!
'KAAAY!!


ASSISTANT S
WHAT IS IT? GHOSTS IN THE PHOTOS?
ABOUT THE PHOTOS FROM THE RESIDENCE...
TOBOSO
DUU
THEN MANY DAYS LATER... WHEN WORKING ON THE PHANTOM NIGHT BOOKLET...
AH! THIS ONE TOO!!!
EH!? WHAT THE HECK!?
CHOP-CHOP!
WE THOUGHT "WE MIGHT NEVER GET TO COME HERE AGAIN," SO ASSISTANT H AND TOBOSO TOOK LOTS OF PHOTOS DURING THOSE TWELVE MINUTES.
H
PASHA (SNAP)
PASHA
PASHA
パシャパシャパシャ
LOTS OF MR. K CASUALLY SHOWING UP IN THE SNAPSHOTS
AND WHAT'S WITH THE POSES!!!
EDITOR K'S IN ALL THE PHOTOS!!!
TH...
THIS IIIIS—!
PHOTO
DOOOOH (GRUNT)
I'M ABOUT TO WET MYSELF 'COS THE CAST IS SO GORGEOUS.
UH, NEVER MIND, JUST DID...
PLEASE WATCH IT, YOU GUYS!!!
AND AN ANNOUNCEMENT WAS MADE AT PHANTOM NIGHT.
BLACK BUTLER WILL BE TURNED INTO AN ANIME THIS FALL!!!
ZAAA (GKSSHD
ISN'T IT OCTOBER YEEEET?
9/18
LMR!
SHABAAA (PEE)
DESPITE ALL THE OBSTACLES, PHANTOM NIGHT TOOK PLACE.
GETTING READY FOR IT WAS LOTS OF FUN~!

Translation Notes

Page 4
Terry Indian Cookery
Richard Terry began working at the Oriental Club in 1851 as *chef de cuisine*. Founded by officers of the East India Company who were not eligible for membership at the private clubs for military men in London, the Oriental Club was a private gentlemen's club that welcomed males who had worked abroad in the East.

Page 5
Edmunds' Empress Curtie Powder
"The Empress" was a highly regarded blend of spices created by Joseph Edmunds, a specialist in the subject of curry by all accounts and author of *Curries and How to Prepare Them* (1903), whose manufacturing headquarters was located in Barnsbury, London. The mixture was awarded a certificate of merit in 1890 by the Royal Sanitary Institute. Also, "curry" was indeed spelled "curtie" in Victorian times.

Page 8
Masalchi
The *-chi* suffix functions to describe occupations, like "-er" or "-ist" in English. *Masal* means "spice." Therefore, a *masalchi* is a type of kitchen servant or scullion whose sole purpose is to work with spices.

Page 12
Murgi's kari
Murgi means "chicken" in Bengali. Arguably, *kari* is the Tamil word from which "curry" is derived, but in common Bengali parlance, what is popularly considered a "curry" would probably be called a *jhol* ("soup" or "gravy").

Page 19-20
Eating with the hands
This way of eating is a common tradition in India. Note that Soma always uses his right hand to do so, the left hand is traditionally considered unclean, as it is the hand used when cleaning oneself.

Page 55
Prince Albert's passing
Prince Albert died at the young age of 42 in 1861. Queen Victoria mourned his loss for the rest of her life.

Page 70
Le homard bleu
This royal blue crustacean is found in the wild in the waters of Brittany and the English Channel. It is highly valued as a delicacy because of its succulence and delicate flavour and is considered an aristocrat of its species by connoisseurs, hence West calling it a "nobleswoman."

Page 81
Curry bun
More commonly known as *kare pan* ("curry bread"). A very common Japanese food that is found in convenience stores and school lunchrooms. It is typically made of Japanese-style curry inside dough, which is then breaded in bread crumbs and deep fried.

Page 98
Manor on the Isle of Wight
The manor to which Queen Victoria is referring is probably Osborne House, her and the Prince Consort's country home and summer retreat.

Page 111
The Crystal Palace
An epitome of Industrial Revolution thinking, this ill-fated but recognisable glass and iron structure was built in Hyde Park, London to accommodate the Great Exhibition of 1851. The building was moved to a different park in 1854, where it stood until 1936, when it was ruined by fire. The remaining towers of the building were demolished during World War II.

Page 135
Television
The television was not commercially available until the 1920s. Though development of the television was in its beginning stages at the time of the events in this volume, broadcasting of shows like *The Wild Earl* probably would not have started until the 1930s.

Page 155 & 6
Millais, Pre-Raphaelites, Waterhouse
The Pre-Raphaelite movement in the arts began in 1848 and sought to bring the arts back to a time before Raphael, whose successors were thought to be too rote and mechanical. John Everett Millais was one of the founders; his paintings were known for being extremely elaborate and nature-intensive. Today, his *Ophelia* can be found at the Tate Britain gallery in London. The painter John William Waterhouse was a later member; his famous *The Lady of Shalott* hangs in the Tate museum in London.

Page 162
Barnaby
Barnaby was one of the bloodhounds kept by Sir Charles Warren, who was Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police during the Jack the Ripper murders. Barnaby was being trained to track suspects in the streets of London at the time and was brought in to help with the investigation.

Inside back cover
The numbers on Baldo's hat can be read in Japanese in such a way that they sound like *Kuroshitsuji*, the original title of *Black Butler*.

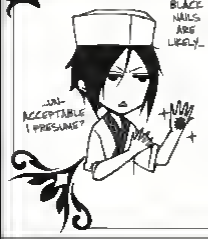
Yana Toboso

Author's note

I draw manga with the thought, "Let it be entertainment for those who read it."

Entertainments are leisure and play supporting roles in our lives. If ***Black Butler***, one such supporting player, can add colour to the leading roles that are the readers' everyday lives, even if only for a moment..... But from beginning to end, the road to perfecting a supporting role is a long and hard one, and I'm still trekking here in Volume 5.

Black Chef
V



Without losing to a giant conveyor belt sushi chain, which even has the market in ingredients cornered, wandering sushi artisan Seka-san steps in and rescues (or not) Tanaka Sushi, a sushi shop teetering on the verge in its owner's absence in this classic gourmet tale!

...or something

BLACK BUTLER 5

Yana Toboso

Translation: Tomo Kimura

This book is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the product of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance ta actual evenfs, locales, or persans, living or dead, is coincidental.

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